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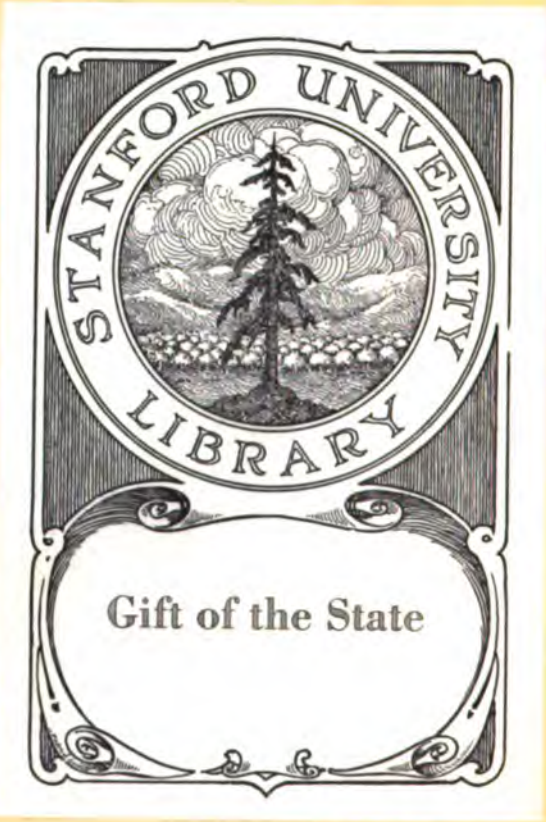

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 5 Sacramento, January, 1919 Number 1

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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SHRIMP FISHERIES OF CALIFORNIA.

By N. B. SCOFIELD.

As the question of removing the restrictions on the Chinese shrimp or bag nets periodically arises at each session of the legislature, it is thought best to give a brief history of the shrimp fishery in the state and to describe the fishery as it has existed in the past in order that those who care to can learn of the great destruction to young fish and young shrimps by the Chinese method of fishing.

The only account of the earliest shrimp fishing operations in the state is supplied by Mr. A. Paladini, the venerable fish dealer of San Francisco. He came to San Francisco in 1869 and engaged in shrimp fishing. There were eight boats on San Francisco Bay engaged in this

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business, each boat manned by white men. They easily caught enough shrimps to supply the demand, besides many flounders, sole, tomcod, etc., for the fresh fish market. Fish and shrimps were very plentiful in the bay at the time. The shrimps caught were the same species as now, but were much larger than those caught in later years during the intensive fishing by the Chinese. This later reduction of the larger and older shrimps as noted by Mr. Paladini is good evidence that the shrimps were being subjected to overfishing. The early fishing of the eight boats of Italian fishermen was carried on with small-meshed seines, sixty feet long and eight feet deep, with a bag at the center. They used the nets in the deeper water of the bay for there the catch was freer of young fish and of the small unmarketable shrimps. The manner of fishing was to lay out the net, then anchor the boat down the tide and pull the net along the bottom toward the boat by means of lines, always pulling with the tide. The net was pulled directly into the boat. They would make from three to five hauls on each tide and they caught from fifty to seventy-five pounds of shrimps at a haul. This method of fishing was far less destructive to young fish than that employed later by the Chinese. They could fish in deeper water, where young fish and young shrimps were fewer, and unlike the Chinese nets which are set during the whole tide and kill practically all the young fish caught, they were in the water only a short time—less than one-half hour—and the small per cent of young fish caught were still alive and could be returned to the water. The shrimps thus caught were sold fresh at the Long Wharf. Little thought was then taken as to whether a method of fishing was destructive or not and there were few laws protecting fish, for it was thought that the supply of fish in the bay and rivers was inexhaustible. The Chinese had for some years been in the fishing business and with their destructive methods of fishing had already begun the extermination of the Sacramento perch and with their fiendish sturgeon lines had inaugurated a method of fishing that has resulted in the commercial extinction of that valuable fish which in the early days was here in apparently inexhaustible numbers.

In 1871 the Chinese began fishing for shrimps and introduced the destructive Chinese shrimp net. They made enormous catches with these fine-meshed set nets and found it profitable to supply the markets with shrimps at one and one-half cents per pound. The original eight Italian shrimp boats were driven out of business and since that time shrimp fishing has been almost entirely carried on by Chinese. From the very start the Chinese dried the bulk of their catch for the Oriental export trade. The shrimp fishery quickly grew to large proportions and fishing was carried on at many places in San Francisco Bay and in Tomales Bay in Marin County.

The first printed account of the shrimp fishery is contained in Vol. II of "History and Methods of the Fisheries" by Goode, printed in 1885 by the United States Bureau of Fisheries. A more extensive investigation of the fishery was made by the author for the California Fish and Game Commission in 1897. A subsequent investigation was made by the author in 1910. There has always been serious objection to the Chinese method of catching shrimps, and much of the legislature's time has been taken up by listening to discussions between those who would

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conserve the fisheries resources of San Francisco Bay and rivers, on the one hand, and the interested defenders of the Chinese, on the other. Closed seasons were finally resorted to and the drying of shrimps was prohibited, without greatly reducing the destruction of young fish. At the 1910–1911 session of the legislature the use of Chinese shrimp nets was prohibited entirely. The shrimps had been so reduced in numbers that it was found unprofitable to catch them by the method formerly employed by the Italians. It was also found to be unprofitable to employ the shrimp trawl which was in successful use on Puget Sound. In 1915 the legislature removed the restriction against the Chinese net in South San Francisco Bay on the ground that in that part of the bay the destruction to young fish was much less than in the upper bay and for the further reason that in that part of the bay the kinds of fish destroyed did not include the young of herring, smelt, shad and striped bass as was the case in the upper bay. At the 1916–1917 session of the

Fig. 1. Chinese shrimp fishing junk on San Francisco Bay. Photograph by H. B. Nidever.

legislature a very strong effort was made to reestablish the fishery in the upper bay by those who would be benefited in the way of rents, selling of supplies, etc., and by those who would have the picturesque industry for sentimental reasons. As this effort is sure to be resumed at the 1918–1919 session it is believed an intimate description of the industry as it existed up to the year 1910 will be of interest, especially as the Chinese now operating in South San Francisco Bay are using identically the same methods, with the single exception that they do not catch so many young fish in that part of the bay and the young fish caught are not of the more valuable species.

Camps: The fishing has been carried on by what has been termed "camps." Each of these camps is a separate unit, which has its own boat, wharf, boiling vat and drying ground, separate living quarters and storehouses. Although one Chinese company may have owned or controlled several camps, even side by side at the water's edge, they

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did not co-operate in any way. The camps were very similar in character, consisting of a group of small, rude shacks of rough, unpainted boards, placed near the edge of the water, with a rough wooden wharf running out into the shallow water on hand-driven piling which answered as a landing place for the camp's junk. Very few of the camps could be approached at low tide, for which reason they usually fished the flood tide in order that they might more easily bring their catch to the landing. The shacks which constituted the living quarters and storehouses were, in the majority of cases, crowded on a narrow beach between the water and the hills. The dry grounds of each camp covered about an acre of the slope of the hills for the want of a better

Fig. 2. Scenes on board Chinese shrimp junk on San Francisco Bay. Photographs by H. B. Nidever.

place, and were usually floored with boards. In two or three of the camps the drying ground was partly on a platform built out over the water. In 1897 there were 26 camps operating on San Francisco Bay and in 1910 this number had been reduced to 19. The camps on Tomales Bay were abandoned some years prior to 1897. Of the 19 camps found in 1910 three were in the cove just above South San Francisco, five were at Hunter's Point, four in Contra Costa County south of Point San Pablo in Marin County. The three camps near South San Francisco were controlled by one company, the Fook On Lung Company of San Francisco. They furnished no fresh shrimps for the market but dried their entire catch. Their fishing ground was in Alameda County about three miles east of San Bruno Point. Each

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of their three junks used sixty Chinese shrimp nets such as are described under "Methods of Operating Nets." Two of the five Hunter's Point camps, located on the south side of the point, were owned by the Quong Lee Chong Company of San Francisco. Each of the two boats fished forty nets and they dried their entire catch. Their fishing ground was about a mile off shore, a little west of south from the point, which brought them within San Francisco County. Of the three camps on the north side of the point, the two camps nearest the point were controlled by the Fook On Lung Company, also known as the California Shrimp Company. The third camp on the north side of the point belonged to the Union Shrimp Company, a Chinese company of San Francisco. The three last-named camps sent part of their catch to the fresh shrimp market and dried the rest. They fished in Alameda County a mile south of the Alameda mole. The four Red Rock camps were located in a cove on the Contra Costa shore about two miles to the south of Point San Pablo. These camps belonged to the Union Shrimp Company of San Francisco and their four boats fished just to the north of Red Rock in water from four to six fathoms deep. This depth is greater than that fished by any of the other boats and it was not possible for them, on account of the depth and tide, to use more than thirty nets to each boat. Part of their catch went to the fresh market but the main part was dried. Of the seven camps near Point San Pedro, Marin County, one was situated in the first cove to the south of the point near the rock quarry. It was an independent company drying most of its catch but selling a few to the Union Shrimp Company, for the fresh market. Their boat fished about one-half mile southwest of the point. The next camp to the north of the point belonged to the Union Shrimp Company. Its boat fished about one-half mile off shore and sometimes across the channel in Contra Costa County. This camp sent part of its catch to the fresh market but dried most of it. One-half mile further to the north was a Quong Lee Chong Company camp and next to it in the same cove a Quong Sing Lung Company camp, while just to the north in the next cove was a second camp of the Quong Sing Lung Company and next to this two other Quong Lee Chong camps. These last five outfits named, dried their entire catch and their five boats operated sixty nets each. They fished far out on what is known as the "Petaluma Flats," the furthest boat fishing one-half mile due south of the outer Petaluma Creek Beacon, the other near but to the southwest. All five fished within the county of Marin.

The following description of the boats, nets and fishing methods applies to the industry today just as it does to the industry as it existed twenty years ago:

Boats. The boats used by these camps are of Chinese pattern and make. They vary in size, but the majority are about fifty feet long and twelve feet beam, with rounded bottoms without a keel, and with square sterns and rather blunt bows. They have one mast which carries a Chinese cleated sail. About fourteen feet of the stern is decked in and constitutes the living quarters of the crew. This compartment is entered through a small sliding hatch and there the five men of the crew cook their meals, eat and sleep. Just forward of this is the open shrimp locker, about twelve feet square, for holding the catch, and next forward is a locker of similar size for holding the nets.

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The remaining space forward is used for lines and gear. On the deck between the crew's quarters and the shrimp locker is a crude wooden windlass placed horizontally and with four wooden spokes projecting by which it is turned by the hands and feet of the operator. From the drum of this windlass a line passes forward through a notch in the elongated bow post of the boat. This windlass and line is used to lift the series of nets from their fishing position at the bottom of the bay. The boats are of sufficient size to carry sixty wet nets and ten to twelve tons of catch.

Nets. Each separate net is constructed in the shape of a funnel. They are usually thirty-two feet long, with the larger opening or mouth about eighteen feet in diameter, from which the net tapers to the narrow opening a foot and one-half in diameter at the end of the sack. This narrow or cod end of the net is closed by a string which can be untied to remove the catch when the nets are pulled up. The nets are made in China from a very strong and durable twisted grass-like fibre. The net has a mesh of three and one-half inches near the mouth but the size rapidly diminishes toward the small end until the sack has meshes of one-half inch or less. This small-meshed end of the net, which has to sustain the weight of the catch when the net is pulled from the water, is usually reinforced by a net of coarse twine placed around the outside. In making the webbing of these nets square knots are used instead of the usual knot used by fishermen the world over. The nets are dried and tanned about once a month and with care they will last a year. Their cost is about $25 Mexican in China. After paying freight and other charges and adding the hanging line around the larger opening they cost here about the same amount in gold.

Method of Operating Nets. Each junk operates a set of nets, thirty to sixty in number, which are set side by side at the bottom of the bay with their larger openings or mouths open to the current. The nets are held in place by a series of brails or speaders—2x3 inch sticks of pine five feet long—each of which is held to a short stake driven in the bottom of the bay by a line from either end, of sufficient length to permit of the brails with the nets attached being lifted to the surface during the slack water between tides, without detaching them from the stake. The stakes to which the brails are attached are driven twenty-four feet apart across the current in the muddy bottom of the bay in a very ingenious manner. For driving these stakes a very long tapering pole is used with a four-inch iron pipe fitted on the larger end so that a hollow end of the pipe projects a couple of feet beyond the end of the pole. Selecting a stake with lines and brail attached, its head is inserted in the hollow end of the pipe where it fits loosely but is kept from falling out by holding on to the brail lines while the pole is held in the vertical position over the spot where it is to be driven. The pole with the stake in place is then lowered from the boat until the stake is pressed into the mud. The stake is then driven home by repeatedly lifting the pole a short distance and then lowering it forcibly. The stakes are driven twenty-four feet apart across the current so that each brail when it is in position with nets attached will stand vertically on the bottom in each space between the mouths of the nets. Attached in this way, the net mouths instead of being circular are now rectangular in shape, the opening being twenty-four feet across and about four and one-half feet

deep. To remove any uneven strain on the nets and to prevent their being carried away by the swift tide, a heavy anchor or stake is placed about fifty feet out from each end of the row of stakes and in line with them, from which runs a heavy line which is tied with a clove hitch to the center of each of the brails. By anchoring this heavy line in line with the stakes and sufficiently far out, the arrangement does not interfere with lifting the brails and nets to the surface of the water when the catch is to be removed just before the slack water at the end of the tide. Besides the heavy anchor line running from brail to brail, there is another and lighter one, the buoy line, which facilitates in lifting the nets. This line, when the nets are set in fishing position, extends from a floating buoy at one end of the string of nets to the first or end brail, to which it is tied by a bight about a foot from its top. From thence it runs to each brail in succession until the last brail at the end of the string of nets is reached, from whence it extends up to another buoy on the surface of the water. This buoy line is in place only when the nets are set. The nets are fastened to the brails

Fig. 3. Sorting and drying young fish obtained from shrimp nets, Point San Pedro, 1897. Shrimp fishing endangers the fisheries by destroying young fish. Photographs by N. B. Scofield.

and the buoy line is attached just after the turn of the tide before the current has become swift. The force of the current swings the series of nets down onto the bottom where they are held by the brail lines to the row of stakes, reinforced by the heavy anchor line. Here they are left during the entire tide, the time varying from four to eight hours, with their mouths open against the tide while the current carries the shrimps and young fish into them. With this manner of fastening the nets they can be used on either a flood or ebb tide.

When the nets are to be lifted at the end of the tide after the force of the current has slackened sufficiently, an end of the buoy line is taken at one of the buoys, passed through the notch in the bow post of the boat and thence carried back to the windlass, where it is reeled in by one man, thus bringing the first brail to the surface and lifting the net with it. The other members of the crew detach the net and the buoy line from the brail while the man at the windlass reels up the next brail. Thus the nets are detached in succession, the catch being emptied into the shrimp locker and the nets placed in the net locker. The

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Chinese are very expert in handling the nets and work rapidly, each man with a particular duty to perform. The time in which the nets have to be lifted is limited usually to about half an hour. They can not begin sooner for the nets can not be lifted when the current is strong. If they are not gotten out before the tide turns the nets begin to swing the other way and they become tangled and the catch is lost. When tides are so strong that there is danger of carrying the nets away they reduce the current pressure by tying the upper edge of the nets farther down on the brails. If the tides are extremely swift they reduce the number of nets.

Shrimp Drying. After the nets are all lifted the junk sails back to the dock at its camp, where the catch is carried in baskets, Chinese

Fig. 4. Shrimp boiling vat, showing skimmers and rakes hanging on crude chimney. Point San Pedro, 1910. Photograph by N. B. Scofield.

style, to the boiling vat. This vat is about four by eight feet and eighteen inches deep, with wooden sides, the bottom being of sheetiron bent up around the sides. It is built in with bricks and mud and to heat the water both wood and coal is used. Fresh water to which rock salt has been added is used in the vats. The shrimps, together with the fish caught with them, are poured in, ten or twelve baskets at a time, and boiled from ten to fifteen minutes. They are then dipped out with a strainer and put into baskets to be carried to the drying ground. Here the shrimps and fish, the latter usually small and delicate with the flesh boiled from the bones, are spread out together to dry in the sun. When the weather is good the shrimps will dry in about four days, when they are gathered together and rolled with cleated, wooden rollers

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to break the shells from the meats. The whole mass is then carried to a shed where it is run through a small fanning mill to separate the loose shells, fish bones and pulverized fish flesh from the heavier shrimp meats. By screening and hand picking the shrimp meats are divided into two grades, the unbroken meats in one and the broken meats in the other. They are then sacked, 280 pounds to the sack. The shells fish-bones and fish flesh, and all fine particles and dust are saved and put in sacks, 310 pounds to the sack, and sold for use as a fertilizer. The loss in drying is about 65 per cent, and for each pound of shrimp meats there are two pounds of fertilizer or "shells."

Drying Fish. The amount of young fish taken in the Chinese nets is always large, varying from 10 to 75 per cent of the entire catch. Formerly large quantities of these fish were dried. The larger fish were picked out and hung on strings to dry while the very small fish, principally the young smelt (*Osmerus thaleichthys*) were dried on trays which had been covered with discarded net webbing. The small fish were separated from the shrimps by dumping a basket of the catch in a small vat of cold water where the live shrimps sank to the bottom, thus allowing the small dead fish to be easily skimmed from the top. After being prosecuted for catching young fish they ceased to dry the small fish and boiled them with the shrimps to get rid of the evidence as quickly as possible. They were nearly as valuable as a fertilizer as they were as a food product. There has always been this incentive to catch the young fish and experience has shown that it is impossible to operate the Chinese net without catching great quantities of immature fish, thus causing great damage to the fisheries of the bay and rivers.

Fresh Shrimps. In the camps that sent fresh shrimps to the markets they had a special shed at the wharf where part of the catch was taken and the larger shrimps screened out by hand and all fish, seaweed and dirt carefully picked out. The shrimps for the market were boiled before the rest of the catch, in the same way as were those to be dried except that less salt was used and they were not boiled quite so long. After boiling, the shrimps were spread on matting on the sorting room floor where they could cool and the surplus moisture evaporate. They were then placed in baskets and conveyed by power launch to San Francisco.

Three Species of Shrimps. Three species of shrimps are taken in San Francisco Bay. Fully 90 per cent of them are of one species, *Crago franciscorum*. The remaining 10 per cent is made up of the two species, *Crago nigricauda* and *Crago nigrimaculata*.

The shrimps drift back and forth along the bottom of the bay with the tides but have the power in some measure to select their environment, for in the winter time when the fresh water is entering the bay in larger quantities they move farther down the bay. In the summer when the blue sea water encroaches on the flats they move farther up toward the river mouths. They appear to go on the shallower flats when they are carrying their eggs. The smaller individuals are found mostly in shallow water and in the deeper and swifter water more large ones are found. They have a wide range, however, for they are found in the deepest water as well as the shallowest and can be found in water perfectly fresh as well as in pure sea water. Very little is known about their life history. Females may be found carrying eggs attached to

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her swimmerets at all seasons of the year. From evidence that has been gathered it is certain that the eggs are carried at least two months on the outside of the body before they hatch and the life of the shrimp from the egg through one spawning time is not less than two years. They feed on minute animal and plant life at the bottom. They may at times feed near the surface for they can swim rather rapidly through the water, moving with the head first.

Character and Quantity of the Catch. The catch of one junk for one tide varied from ten hundred pounds to ten tons. An average day's catch for the boats using forty nets was six thousand pounds and for the boats using sixty nets, eight thousand pounds. The nets always contain young fish, the quantity varying from 10 per cent to 75 per cent of the entire catch. The boats using sixty nets each on the shallow flats on the west side of San Pablo Bay caught the greatest proportion of young fish. The reason for this is that most of the fish which enter San Francisco Bay enter for the purpose of spawning. Among these fish the valuable ones are the herring, smelt, striped bass, shad and salmon. Besides these the young of other valuable commercial species, such as the crab and the sole, enter the bay for the purpose of feeding and for protection. A bay with rivers entering it is always a nursery for young fish. Where there is an intermingling of fresh and salt water as in the upper San Francisco Bay there is a prodigal growth of small animal life, including shrimps and other species of small crustaceans. Upon this small life the young fishes feed. The young fish are there because the shrimps are there. A method of shrimp fishing such as that employed by the Chinese, which catches the young fish as readily as the shrimps and holds them until they are suffocated, is a serious menace to the whole fishing industry of the bay and its tributary rivers. Even if they caught only shrimps, there is a limit to the number which should be caught for they are the food of our more valuable fishes, but when the method of fishing takes the young fish themselves in vast quantities, as did the Chinese nets in upper San Francisco Bay, it should not be tolerated if we value the other fisheries, or if we value the shrimp itself, for there is every evidence that even the shrimps were being overfished. To appreciate the seriousness of the situation as it existed in 1910, just imagine the nineteen Chinese junks with their combined nets numbering one thousand, each one having a mouth opening of 24x4½ feet, straining the small fish and shrimps from the rushing water, tide after tide. The total annual catch by the Chinese junks at the time they were stopped from fishing in 1911 was considerably in excess of ten million pounds of fresh shrimps and fish combined. Of this amount no more than eight hundred thousand pounds of the shrimps were used fresh. The rest was all dried and marketed as dried shrimp meat and fertilizer.

After the Chinese method of fishing was stopped it was found that the Italian method as employed in the early days was not profitable, for the shrimps were too scarce and there were no more flounders or tomcod. Neither was the shrimp beam trawl profitable for the shrimps were not plentiful enough for that method and the nets were torn on the Chinese shrimp stakes driven all over the bay. As no other method of catching shrimps was employed and as the market was bare of shrimps, the

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presence of which had been for years a feature of California, the ban was lifted from the Chinese nets in southern San Francisco Bay in 1915. The nets do less damage in that part of the bay as there are fewer young fish there of valuable varieties for the reason that there is little fresh water flowing in that portion of the bay. The young of the herring are not found there, as they spawn in the upper bay, nor are the young of the smelt, shad, striped bass or salmon found there, for they are hatched only in the larger rivers and as they descend to the bay they distribute themselves in the brackish water nursery of the upper or San Pablo Bay. Shrimps were not very plentiful in south San Francisco Bay on account of the former heavy fishing and on account of the gradually increasing salinity of the water. Drying of shrimps had also been prohibited and it was found not very profitable to fish for the fresh market only. During the first year after they resumed fishing the markets took less than 350,000 pounds of shrimps. They could have had more but there was not the former demand. The amount of

Fig. 5. Drying shrimps at Point San Pedro in 1910. Photographs by N. B. Scofield.

fresh shrimps marketed has increased each year until now the amount is equal to that of any former year when shrimp fishing was at its height. The shrimps have increased in numbers in all portions of the bays, as also have the number of small fish, especially the young of the striped bass. It has now become profitable to use the shrimp beam trawl which, towed with the tide, catches the shrimp with a very small per cent of young fish. As illustrative of the damage done by the Chinese nets in former years the following is quoted from my note book of 1897:

> "The average catch per day for each boat at the San Rafael (Point San Pedro) fishery, during the last two weeks of July, was seventy baskets, each basket weighing about ninety pounds, making in all six thousand three hundred pounds. The average number of boats out each day was seven, making in all a daily catch of forty-four thousand one hundred pounds. For thirteen days (the time they were under continual observation) this number is swelled

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to six hundred sixty-one thousand, five hundred pounds. One-half of this catch consisted of small fish, the principal species being smelt, California anchovy and sculpin.

The small smelt, two and one-half to three and one-half inches long, were very abundant, making up over one-fourth of the entire catch. The estimated amount of these young smelt taken in the last fifteen days of July is 165,375 pounds, or about 16,537,500 small fish. When the nets are brought to the surface of the water, these small smelt are dead, so that to throw them back would do no good."

Later, in the year 1910, we made the following notes:

"*Oct. 25, 1910*: Visited two San Pedro Point boats as they lifted their nets. One had 30 per cent of young fish, mostly smelt and sole. They also had a good many undersized female edible crabs, which were alive, but they had not attempted to throw them back. The other boat had 20 per cent of young fish.

Oct. 28, 1910: Six boats out of San Pedro Point. Ming's boat had eighty baskets on this tide, of which 30 per cent was fish, mostly young smelt, young sole, and tomcod. One boat had forty baskets, two boats fifty baskets each, and the remaining two had seventy-five each. The amount of young fish was about 20 per cent. Ming says he uses forty nets and has averaged seventy baskets a day for September and October. The five camps above him use sixty nets each and their catch is much larger.

Oct. 29, 1910: Again visited San Pedro Point boats. Five boats out. The catch the same as yesterday. Three boat crews have been arrested in the last few days for catching young fish, but when visited yesterday and today they made no attempt whatever to throw back even the few fish that were alive. Wing had used a screen to get out the fish, but his catch was still 30 per cent fish. Their nets were all set wide open, as the tides are not so strong now."

The above notes are selected to give a conservative idea of what the average catch consists in upper San Francisco Bay. The greatest damage is done on the shallow San Pablo Bay flats. During the winter months large numbers of small striped bass are killed in the nets. The boats which fished below San Pablo Bay in the deeper water near Red Rock and the Stone Quarry caught smaller quantities of young fish than those above, but they caught more of the young striped bass than any others. The late increase in the number of striped bass is undoubtedly in large part due to the abolition of the Chinese nets in the upper bay, and if we value that fine food and game fish the destructive shrimp nets should be kept out.

The Chinese operating in South San Francisco Bay catch fewer young fish and the varieties caught are not of the valuable species. The lower bay can easily supply the fresh markets without serious injury to any of the other fisheries. But even there, the nets should be prohibited as soon as a less destructive method of shrimp fishing can be developed.

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THE FISHES OF THE CROAKER FAMILY (SCIAENIDAE) OF CALIFORNIA.

By EDWIN CHAPIN STARKS, Stanford University.

The fishes of this family have a peculiar silvery skin that is unlike the bright, burnished silver of some fishes, the herrings for instance, but suggests rather frosted silver. The head is closely covered with scales, more or less irregular in size and shape, and the pore-bearing scales of the lateral line extend onto the caudal fin. The bones of the skull are variously excavated with tunnels and open channels (cavernous), and the chin is usually provided with large pores or barbels. Two dorsal fins are present; the first composed of spines and more or less triangular in shape. The anal fin has one or two spines, sometimes very small and slender or sometimes the second one is very much enlarged.

The croakers are carnivorous fishes rather distantly related to the basses. Many of them make a peculiar noise from which the common names of croaker, grunter, and drum have been derived. The noise is supposed to be made by forcing the air (or more properly, gas) from one part of the swim bladder to another. The species are numerous on sandy shores, and are most abundant in warm and tropic seas. At Panama, for instance, there are between 40 and 45 representatives of this family. Of the eight that occur on our coast only two are found in abundance as far north as San Francisco. Most of the others occasionally stray that far, but are common only on the southern coast. All of them are very good food fishes, and some are classed as game fishes.

The common or popular names of these fishes are even more mixed up and poorly applied than usual. *Cynoscion nobilis*, the "sea bass," is not a bass, and *Seriphus*, sometimes called the herring, does not even remotely resemble the herring. The young "sea bass' is known as "sea trout." No possible stretch of the imagination could make it suggest a trout, and having wrongly called its parent a bass, to call it a trout is a very good commentary on how loosely common names are used. *Genyonemus*, the fish that is usually known as the kingfish, is sometimes called "tomcod" on the southern California coast. It resembles a tomcod as little as *Seriphus*, the queenfish, resembles a herring. When *Genyonemus*, the kingfish, is called "tomcod" the name kingfish is transferred to *Seriphus*, the queenfish, or white croaker. *Cynoscion parvipinnis*, a close relative of the "sea bass," is sometimes called "bluefish," though it has nothing whatever in common with the famous bluefish of the Atlantic. The names croaker, roncador, and corvina are not at all consistently applied, but are shuffled back and forth between various of these fishes.

Hence in the use of vernacular names among these or any other fishes the reader is again cautioned that there is no constancy nor rule for their application, and he can only be sure of definitely indicating a given fish by using its scientific name. Though such names will probably never be used by people at large, and certainly not by unlettered fishermen, the scientific name is nevertheless the one true name for a species, and a name that will be recognized by scientific men in all countries the world over.

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KEY TO THE FISHES OF THE CROAKER FAMILY IN CALIFORNIA.

1. Lower jaw projecting beyond tip of snout, which is sharp.
   2. Base of second dorsal fin about equal in length to base of anal fin. *Queenfish or White Croaker. Seriphus politus.* Page 15.
   2–2. Base of second dorsal fin very much longer than that of anal fin.
      3. Teeth at middle of upper jaw little if any enlarged. Pectoral fin more than half the length of head. Its tip reaching about as far back as tips of ventrals. *White Sea Bass. Cynoscion nobilis.* Page 15.
      3–3. One or two long teeth pointing backward at the middle of upper jaw. Pectoral fin less than half the length of head. Its tip not reaching as far back as tips of ventrals. *California Bluefish. Cynoscion parvipinnis.* Page 16.

1–1. Tip of snout blunt and projecting beyond tip of lower jaw.
   4. A single short barbel or appendage at tip of lower jaw.
      5. A large thick spine at front of anal fin. The first spine of the first dorsal not longer than the spines just behind it. The tip of the first dorsal rounded. *Yellowfin Croaker. Umbrina roncador.* Page 17.
      5–5. No enlarged spine at front of anal fin. The first dorsal spine longer than the others, making the tip of the first dorsal very sharp. *California Whiting. Menticirrhus undulatus.* Page 17.
   4–4. No single barbel at tip of lower jaw.
      6. A large thick spine at front of anal fin.
         7. A large black spot on front of pectoral fin. Pectoral fin as long as head, and reaching past tips of ventrals. Caudal fin concave behind. *Spotfin Croaker. Roncador stearnsi.* Page 18.
         7–7. No spot at front of pectoral, but a dark spot usually present on hind edge of gill cover. Pectoral fin much shorter than head and not reaching to tips of ventrals. Caudal fin not concave behind. *Black, or Chinese Croaker. Sciaena saturna.* Page 19.
      6–6. No enlarged spine at front of anal fin. *Kingfish. Genyonemus lineatus.* Page 20.

GLOSSARY.

Anal fin: The single fin on the lower side of the body towards the tail.

Barbel: A small fleshy projection or appendix. In these fishes it is on the lower jaw.

Caudal fin: The tail fin.

Dorsal fin: The fin on the back. In these fishes it is divided into two fins: the first composed of spines, and hence called spinous dorsal; the second composed of soft rays.

Maxillary: The flattened bone bordering the mouth above.

Pectoral fin: The pair of fins, one on each side, situated close behind the gill opening.

Preoperculum: A bone of the gill cover that borders the cheek behind. It is considerably in front of the hind edge of the gill cover, and has a free edge.

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Snout: The part of the head that lies in front of the eyes except the lower jaw.

Ventral fins: The paired fins on the lower part of the breast; close under the pectorals in these fishes.

The Queenfish, or White Croaker (Seriphus politus).

The length of the base of the second dorsal fin is about equal in length to the base of the anal fin. The tip of the snout is rather sharp and the tip of the lower jaw projects beyond it when the mouth is closed. The mouth is long and narrow, and the maxillary does not quite reach to vertically below the hind border of the eye. The dorsal fins are well separated, and the spines of the first dorsal are slender. The color is bluish above with the sides and belly bright silvery, the fins yellow, and the base of the pectoral dusky.

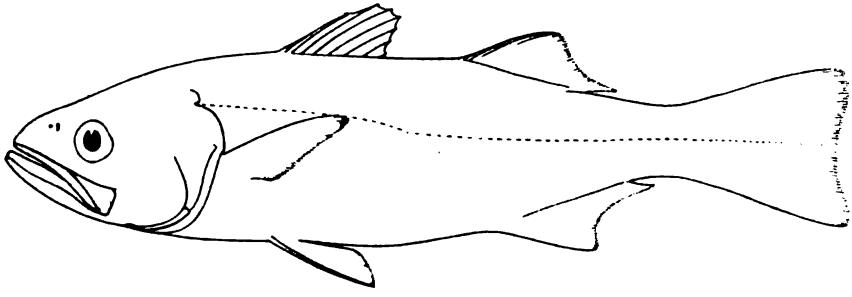

Fig. 6. The queenfish (*Seriphus politus*).

On the southern California coast this fish is ridiculously called herring, a name that should decidedly be discouraged, for it has nothing in common with the herring, is not related to it, and does not even look like it. It also in the same region shares with *Genyonemus lineatus*, the name of kingfish. The latter is almost universally so known and hence has the best right to the name.

This fish reaches a length of about a foot, and is an excellent pan-fish. It is salted and smoked to some extent in southern California and marketed as herring. It is common on sandy shores of the southern and Lower California coasts, and has been taken as far northward as San Francisco.

The White "Sea Bass" (Cynoscion nobilis).

The snout is sharp and the tip of the lower jaw projects beyond it when the mouth is closed, while the length of the base of the second dorsal is three or more times the length of the anal base. The length of the pectoral fin is more than half the length of the head, and the tip of the pectoral reaches about to opposite the tips of the ventrals. There are no greatly enlarged teeth pointing backwards at the front of the upper jaw. The mouth is large and the maxillary nearly or quite reaches to vertically below the hind border of the eye. The caudal fin

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is concave behind. Very fine dark points are everywhere dusted over the silvery color, making it more or less dusky bluish. The inner surfaces of the pectoral and ventral fins are dusky.

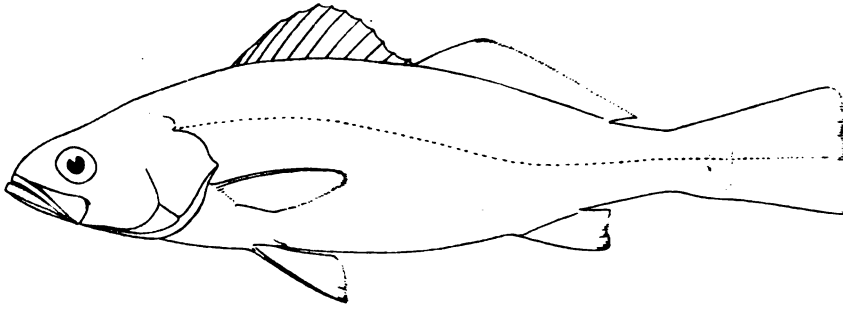

Fig. 7. The white sea bass (*Cynoscion nobilis*).

Though this fish is only distantly related to the bass, it is in California almost universally known as the sea bass or white sea bass. On the Atlantic coast fishes of this group are known as weakfishes. This species is one of our most valuable food fishes, reaching a weight of 90 or more pounds, and having firm white flesh. It is found in considerable abundance along the California coast and southward to Lower California. It has been reported as far north as Puget Sound. The young has dusky bands extending down from the back onto the sides. Fishermen call the small ones sea trout.

The California "Bluefish" (Cynoscion parvipinnis).

As in the white sea bass the snout is sharp; the tip of the lower jaw projects beyond it when the mouth is closed; and the base of the second dorsal fin is much longer than that of the anal fin. It may be known from the white sea bass by the pectoral fin being less than half the length

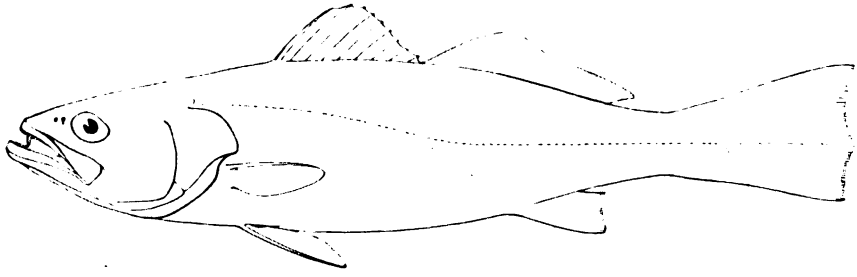

Fig. 8. The California bluefish (*Cynoscion parvipinnis*).

of the head, and its tip not nearly reaching as far back as the tips of the ventrals. It is also distinguished by having one or two long sharp teeth pointing backwards from the middle of the upper jaw. The dorsal fins are close together. The color is steel blue above and silvery on the lower parts and sides.

This fish closely resembles the white sea bass—in fact it is not recognized as different by many fishermen. It does not reach as large a size,

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probably not exceeding a couple of feet in length, and it is said to be much inferior to it. Its flesh is soft and it does not bear transportation well. It is found from southern California southward along the coast of Lower California.

The name bluefish as applied to this species probably is on account of its color, and not because it is thought to be the same as the famous bluefish of the Atlantic. The latter is a very different fish, not at all related to this species.

The Yellowfin Croaker (Umbrina roncador).

This fish may be known from its relatives by a short fleshy barbel, or appendage, that projects from the chin, and, in addition, by a large thick spine at the front of the anal fin. The enlarged spine is the second anal spine, there being a very short one in front of it. Its snout is blunt and projects over and above the tip of the lower jaw. The mouth is nearly horizontal, and the maxillary reaches to under the middle of the eye. The edge of the bone that bounds the cheek behind

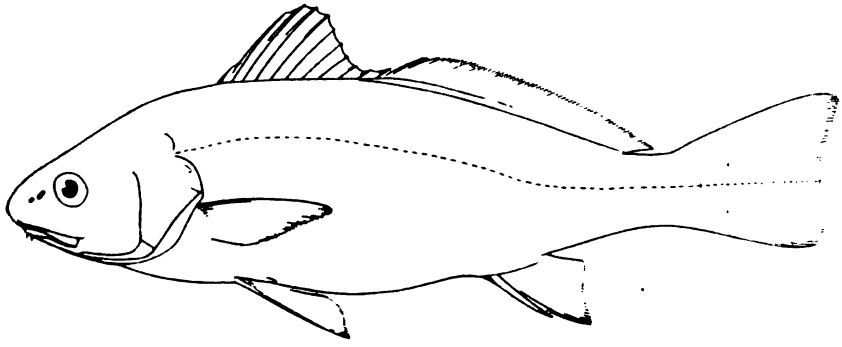

Fig. 9. The yellow-fin croaker (*Umbrina roncador*).

(preoperculum) is set with fine spines. The spinous dorsal is triangular in shape but rounded at its upper angle at the points of the first spines. The pectorals are rather short and do not reach as far back as the ventrals do. The caudal is concave behind; and the upper lobe is longer than the lower. Brassy and golden reflections overlie the silvery color. The back is bluish, and over the back and sides are many wavy dark lines that extend upward and backward following the rows of scales. The fins are mostly yellow.

This fish reaches a length of 15 or 16 inches, and it is rather common on the southern California coast. Its range extends southward into the Gulf of California while an occasional one strays northward as far as San Francisco. It is a very good food fish, and is caught in considerable abundance by the anglers on the piers and beaches of southern California. It is a very handsome fish when it is first drawn from the water, but its iridescent colors soon fade.

The California Whiting or Corvina (Menticirrhus undulatus).

This is a well marked fish that may be known by a fleshy barbel, or appendage, that projects from the chin, the first dorsal spine longer than

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the others, making the fin sharply pointed above, and the caudal fin with its lower angle rounded and its upper sharp. The barbel at the chin is longer than in the yellowfin croaker. It may be known from that species at once by its lacking an enlarged spine at the front of the anal. The upper jaw projects considerably over the lower, the mouth is horizontal, and the maxillary barely, or scarcely, reaches to below the front edge of the pupil. The edge of the preoperculum is divided into fine points which are membranous and not bony spines as in the yellowfin croaker. The pectoral is rather long and reaches to about the tips of

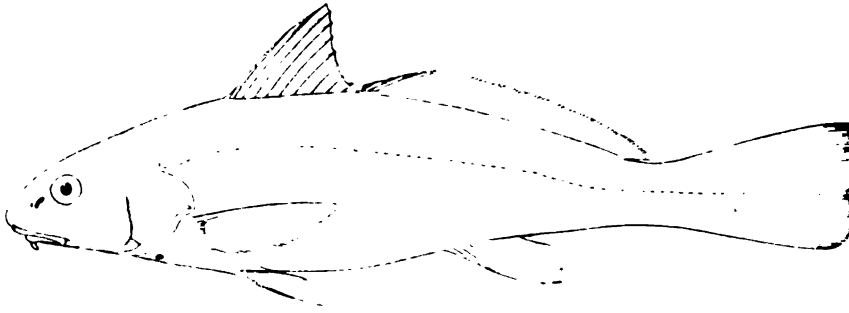

Fig. 10. The California whiting (*Menticerrhus undulatus*).

the ventrals. The color is grayish with bright reflections. On the back and side are many dark wavy lines that run upwards and backwards. The back sometimes has faint dark bars crosswise to the body.

This fish is rather common on sandy shores of southern California, and is known southward into the Gulf of California, while individuals are sometimes taken as far northward as San Francisco. It is a very good food fish and reaches a length of 18 or 20 inches.

The Spot, or Spotfin Croaker (Roncador stearnsi).

This fish may be known at once by the large black spot at the base of the pectoral fin. It is not only on both sides of the pectoral, but is also somewhat on the body behind the pectoral base. As in most of the

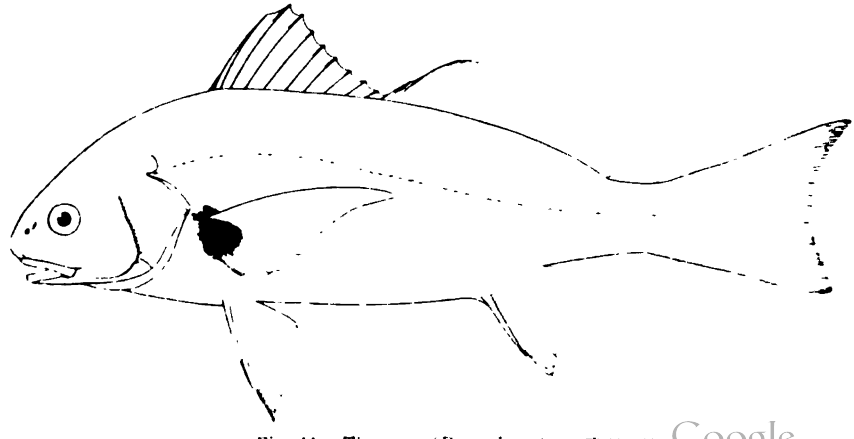

Fig. 11. The spot (*Roncador stearnsi*).

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croakers, a blunt snout extends over a horizontal mouth. The mouth is moderate in size, and the maxillary reaches to below the middle of the eye. The preoperculum is set with fine sharp spines. The first dorsal has stout spines and the second spine of the anal is enlarged, the first spine being, as usual, small. The pectoral is as long as the head, and reaches considerably past the tips of the ventrals. The color is grayish silvery, lighter below. Wavy dark lines follow the rows of scales extending upwards and backwards. These are less conspicuous than in the yellowfin roncador. Two dusky streaks usually run back from the throat to the ventrals and thence to each side of the anal.

This fish is abundant on the southern California coast, and, like most of the others, has occasionally been taken as far north as San Francisco. It is of some importance as a food fish, and reaches a weight of 5 or 6 pounds.

The Black Croaker, or Chinese Croaker (Sciaena saturna).

The following combination of characters will identify this fish from its relatives: The snout blunt and projecting over the tip of the lower jaw; no barbel at the chin; the second anal spine large and thick; no

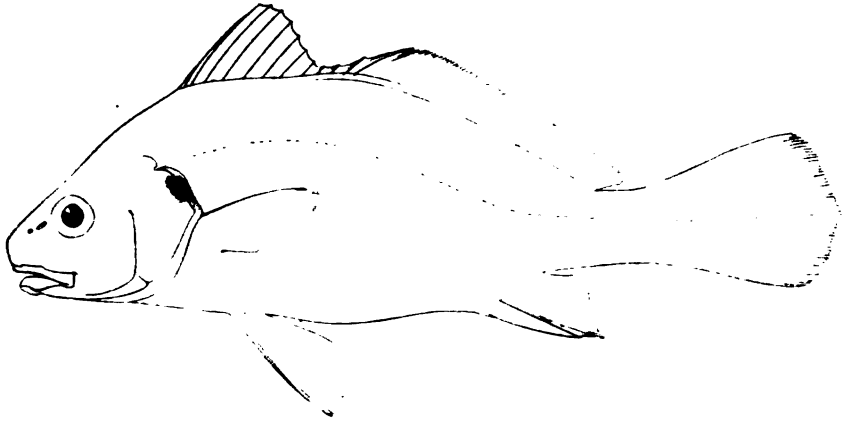

Fig. 12. The black croaker (*Sciæna saturna*).

black spot at base of pectoral; the pectoral shorter than the head and not reaching to the tips of the ventrals. The mouth is small, the lower jaw closes within the upper, and the maxillary reaches to below the middle of the eye. The scales on the head are small, rough and uneven. The preoperculum has a membranous edge that is divided into very fine points which are scarcely noticeable without the aid of a magnifier. The dorsal spines are rather stout, but not nearly so stout as the second anal spine. The caudal is slightly convex, or with its middle rays the longest. The color is dusky with reddish coppery reflections. A pale band usually extends downward from between the dorsals to opposite the tips of the ventrals. This often fades with age. The lower parts are silvery but dusted over and obscured by dark specks. The side of the head is more brilliantly coppery color than elsewhere. The ventral fins are dusky or black. A black spot is present at the edge of the gill cover just above its angle.

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This fish has not been reported north of Santa Barbara. Its range extends southward alonge the coast of Lower California. It reaches a length of about 15 inches, and is a fairly good food fish.

The Kingfish (Genyonemus lineatus).

The characters of the first sentence separate this fish from its relatives. The blunt snout projecting over the tip of the lower jaw; no barbel at the chin; no enlarged spine at the front of the anal. The mouth is rather oblique. The lower jaw closes within the upper, and the maxillary reaches to under the middle of the eye or a trifle farther. The edge of the preoperculum is membranous and without fine bony points. On each side of the lower jaw just behind the chin are several very small barbels, so small that they scarcely show without the aid of a magnifier. The spines of the dorsal are slender. The pectoral ends opposite to the very slender points of the ventrals, or reaches a little past. The caudal fin is slightly concave behind. Brassy reflections

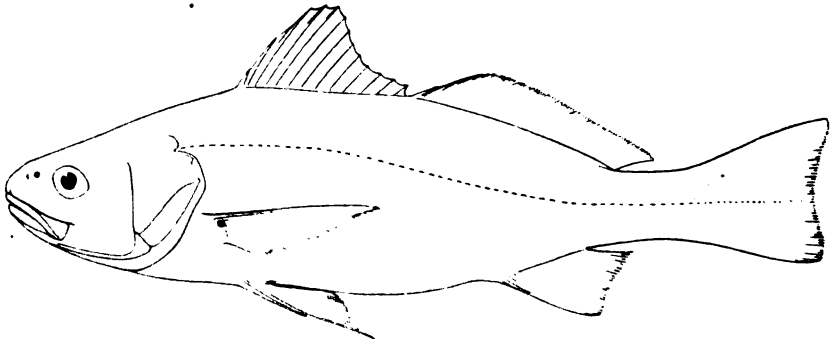

Fig. 13. The kingfish (*Genyonemus lineatus*).

overlie the bright silvery color. Very faint wavy lines follow the rows of scales upwards and backwards. The fins are usually yellowish, and there is a small dark spot just behind the base of the upper pectoral rays.

This fish and the white sea bass are the only ones of this family that are found in any abundance as far north as San Francisco. It runs southward along the Lower California coast. It is commoner in summer than in winter, and more abundant on the southern coast than the northern. It scarcely exceeds a foot in length, but its abundance makes it a food fish of considerable importance. When fresh it is a very good food fish, but its flesh is rather soft and it does not keep very well. It is sometimes called tomcod in southern California. This name should not be used, for it in no way, shape, nor manner resembles the tomcod.

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NOTE ON THE SAND DAB.

By EDWIN C. STARKS.

Through an oversight in the paper on flat-fishes that appeared in the last number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME the old name of soft flounder was used as a common name of the fish that has in recent years been known as the sand dab (*Citharichthys sordidus*). This name, sand dab, has almost entirely supplanted the older name on our coast and for that reason should be used. It is, however, one of those unfortunate names borrowed from another fish from another part of the world. The sand dab of the Atlantic coast (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*) has the best right to the name, for it was first so called. It bears little resemblance to our sand dab. So in your copy of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME please write sand dab in place of soft flounder.

THE STICKLEBACK: A FISH EMINENTLY FITTED BY NATURE AS A MOSQUITO DESTROYER.

By CARL L. HUBBS.

Since it has been proved that malaria, yellow fever, and other dread diseases are carried by mosquitoes, there has developed a wide interest in these little insects, which hitherto had been regarded more as a nuisance than as a menace. Many studies have been undertaken in order to determine the best methods by which mosquitoes may be exterminated or at least greatly reduced in numbers.

The use of window screens, the draining of swamps, and the oiling of waters, as well as the spread of natural enemies, are methods of control that have received attention with very notable success. For instance, the building of the Panama Canal has been made possible by the destruction of mosquitoes and the consequent control of yellow fever.

A word as to the main methods of mosquito control. The use of screens does not eliminate the evil. The draining of swamps has been very successfully practiced in New Jersey, and is applicable to other regions where large, swampy tracts occur. The use of oil, which spreads as a film over the water, forms a sufficient control, but requires continued attention and expense, and can scarcely be applied to most ornamental ponds or reservoirs or to pools from which animals drink.

There is thus need for other methods, and of these the spread of the natural enemies of the mosquitoes is by far the most important. These natural enemies are numerous, and the most valuable of them all for the purpose are fishes, which destroy the young stages of the mosquitoes as well as the adults when they alight on the surface of the water.

Among the fishes extensively used in mosquito control, the little killifishes or topminnows may be mentioned, but there are others which can be strongly recommended. This short report is written to call further attention to the value of the stickleback (*Gasterosteus*) as a mosquito destroyer in California, particularly in the coastal regions.

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FACTORS RENDERING THE STICKLEBACK AN EFFICIENT MOSQUITO DESTROYER.

1. *The stickleback uses mosquitoes as food.* This point is to be proved first of all. The evidence is convincing. The stickleback has been seen snapping up adult mosquitoes thrown into the water. Mosquitoes are unable to breed in waters inhabited by sticklebacks. This conclusion, previously arrived at in regard to the stickleback and the salt-marsh mosquito of San Francisco Bay, has been rigidly tested out in many of the streams from San Francisco south to the Mexican border. Only a few examples from the observations can be made here.

In San Francisquito Creek, near Palo Alto, pools were repeatedly found near one another and apparently similar except in this respect: in the one pool sticklebacks were plentiful, but no mosquito wrigglers could be detected, while in the other pool sticklebacks were absent, while mosquitoes were breeding in abundance.

The swamps, pools and streams of the coast region of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties appear as ideal breeding waters for mosquitoes, yet the people there enjoy unusual freedom from these pests and dangers. A study of the region makes it almost certain that these people have the stickleback to thank for the service thus rendered. But, even in these regions mosquitoes breed in abundance in the mountain canyons into which the sticklebacks can not penetrate because of the steep descent of the bouldery stream beds. The mosquitoes are forced back, however, into the mountains where there are fewer people for them to torment.

In Mission Valley in San Diego sticklebacks are, for some unknown reason, entirely absent, but mosquitoes and gnats are very troublesome during the summer months. From the valley the mosquitoes are blown up the canyons to the city on the mesa above. During the summer the surface waters of the San Diego River, which flows through Mission Valley, are reduced to a series of pools. In these pools three introduced fishes, the golden bream (*Notemigomus crysoleucas*), the bullhead (*Ameiurus nebulosus*), and the green sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*) are generally abundant. It seems that the stickleback is more efficient in the control of mosquitoes than are these three other fishes together.

During an entire summer's study of this problem, I never noted a considerable number of either mosquito wrigglers or sticklebacks in the same pool together. Wherever the stickleback can penetrate, and they go as far as they can, the mosquitoes are effectively destroyed.

2. *Abundance of other food will not deter the stickleback from feeding on the mosquito wrigglers.* This conclusion is evident from field observations, and is confirmed by the size and structure of the fish: its mouth, small even for such tiny fishes, will not permit it to feed on large insect larvæ such as those of dragon flies, which, by the way, upon emerging as the adult insect, feed upon the mosquitoes in the air.

3. *The stickleback feeds at all levels of the water, from bottom to surface.* Because of this fact, mosquito wrigglers of different habits are all picked up. Statements published by Seal, and by Lutz and Chambers for the stickleback of the East Coast, make it appear a bottom feeder. At least, such a conclusion does not apply to the stickleback of

California. I have thrown mosquitoes into a pool of the Los Angeles River, and scarcely would one of them drop below the surface before one of these little fishes would dart from some hidden corner and devour it.

4. *The habits of the stickleback render it destructive to mosquitoes.* This little fish hangs at any level of the water, tail bent to one side or the other, passively waiting for a stimulus to move. The wriggler is spied, and the stickleback snaps it up with pike-like speed and voracity.

5. *The stickleback itself is largely immune to the attacks of larger fishes.* This is a fact of much importance, giving the little spiny and armored stickleback a distinct advantage in many waters over other mosquito-eating fishes, as the topminnows. Sticklebacks live abundantly with rainbow trout, as in the Ventura River; and with black bass, as in the San Luis Creek. In ponds and reservoirs the waters could thus be stocked with both game fishes and sticklebacks, whereas the topminnows would, under such circumstances, soon be devoured.

6. *The stickleback is a widely distributed fish.* This little fish (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*), of several varieties, is found along the shores of all northern regions in the brackish waters of the bays and estuaries, and in the coastal streams. The stickleback in the streams of California extend their ranges from the estuaries as far up into the mountain canyons as they can penetrate. At high water they spread out and are trapped in many little pools from which mosquitoes are thus eliminated.

7. *The stickleback lives and breeds in small pools.* These pools include not only those along stream sides, but also the little shallow ponds and reservoirs about houses, which if not stocked with fishes, become breeding grounds for mosquitoes. For this purpose the stickleback is eminently fitted by its size, structure and habits. After planting once it requires no further care. Observations in California have led to these conclusions.

8. *The rise in temperature during the summer months seems not to kill the sticklebacks.* Where other fishes might be killed off in summer in shallow ponds and reservoirs, the sticklebacks seem to live on. These little fishes have even been found in the hot springs of Tia Juana, near the Mexican boundary.

9. *The abundance of sticklebacks in the streams of California provides an ample supply of these fishes for the stocking of artificial and natural pools, ponds and reservoirs.* A fine meshed minnow seine, or one made of from four to six yards of cheap cloth, can be used to obtain these fishes in the waters in which they live.

10. *The stickleback is a hardy little fish and will stand transportation from its native streams to artificial ponds, in open buckets or in cans, such as those used to transport fish fry for planting in streams distant from the hatcheries.*

PRACTICAL USE OF THE STICKLEBACK IN THE CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES.

No artificial cistern, pool, pond or reservoir should be left unstocked with fishes, and for this purpose the stickleback is probably the most practical fish in California, for the reasons which have already been outlined. By its use the breeding of mosquitoes about houses would

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be prevented, and a troublesome nuisance and a real source of danger would be largely eliminated, for the mosquitoes which attack us have mostly been bred close by.

There would remain, however, many isolated pools in the salt marshes, along the sides of the lower courses of the streams, and in their upper canyons. These pools are usually without fishes, and in some of them dangerous mosquitoes breed in abundance. The stocking of these pools with sticklebacks would doubtless, in many cases at least, prove both possible and advisable. This might be done independently by those people interested in their own welfare, or perhaps better by some public official. It is quite probable that in the swampy lands and in the rice fields along the Sacramento River, the little topminnows would prove more efficient enemies of the malaria mosquitoes than the sticklebacks. The California Fish and Game Commission is working with that idea in view.

The control of mosquitoes is quite possible, in part by the use of the stickleback, as advocated in this article, and in part by other methods, such as the draining of swamps, etc. It is to be hoped that the proper authorities in California will increase their energy in this field, for the effective control of mosquitoes within its borders would make California an even safer and more pleasant place in which to live than it is now.

EARLY STAGES OF THE SPINY LOBSTER TAKEN BY THE BOAT "ALBACORE."*

By WALDO L. SCHMITT, United States National Museum.

The investigations of the Fish and Game Commission boat, the "Albacore," have recently yielded some valuable returns, during her scientific investigations of the commercial fishes and fisheries of southern California, in the shape of hitherto unknown larval stages of the California spiny lobster (*Panulirus interruptus*).

Under the auspices of the United States Bureau of Fisheries and through the courtesy of the Scripps Institution the writer recently spent some months in California primarily for the purpose of making a study of the Scripps Institution's extensive series of plankton samples in the hopes of shedding some light on the life history of the spiny lobster. Though in considerable number, only the earlier larval stages were represented in their collections.†

*Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt of the United States National Museum, has made a special study of marine crustacea, and the opportunity to provide him with material for the study of the early stages of the spiny lobster was a very welcome one to the Fish and Game Commission. His visit to this coast came at a time when the scientific work of the "Albacore" was but fairly under way, and the fact that it was able to provide him with material which seems to be of very considerable value should be of happy portent for the future. The superintendence of the hauls and of the handling of the nets was very competently done by Mr. Elmer Higgins, attached to the "Albacore" as a scientific assistant during her work on larval fish.

It will be well to call attention to the significance of the wide distribution of the larval lobsters. These flat, transparent organisms are found floating freely in the water, and are distributed by the currents. Although we do not know, of course, what proportion of the larvæ are carried along the coast by the currents, nor what numbers of them finally succeed in obtaining a suitable footing on the completion of their development, yet it should be fairly clear that there is an interdependence between widely separated regions inhabited by the spiny lobster.— *Will F. Thompson.*

†Subsequent to the taking of the large phyllosomes referred to below, one of like size was found in the Scripps Institution collections. It is interesting to note in this connection that in one of their large aquarium tanks they succeeded in hatching out the first phyllosome stage this past summer from the eggs carried by a single berried female.

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But on August 29, 1918, while the writer was aboard the "Albacore," four phyllosomes of large size, the largest ever taken off California, were secured with the vessel's small otter-trawl. These specimens average about an inch in length, of body proper, and were obtained about 16 miles west of the Coronados Islands in 75 fathoms of water. One of these specimens is shown in the accompanying figure (fig. 14).

Including the above-mentioned specimens, the "Albacore" had taken up to the time of the writer's return from California, some fourteen lots of large and intermediate sized phyllosomes, and another rare stage

Fig. 14. Large phyllosome, an heretofore undiscovered larval form of the spiny lobster.

known as the puerulus. Some of these lots contained numerous individuals. The puerulus is the stage intermediate between the pyhllosome, the form in which the "lobster" is hatched from the egg, and the definitive form of the adult. These collections were well distributed through the southern California waters ranging as far as 150 miles off shore and to a maximum depth of 75 fathoms. This is a rather surprising range for such a well known littoral form.

So far as a preliminary examination of the material taken by the "Albacore" together with that obtained from the Scripps Institution goes, it appears that the early life history of the California spiny lobster is in a fair way of solution. A full report of the results of the summer's work is in preparation.

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THE COYOTE AS A DEER KILLER.

By E. V. JOTTER.

Although we have long known the coyote as a predatory animal it has only been recently that we have obtained evidence of its destructiveness to big game. Heretofore known as a destroyer of quail, grouse and domestic stock such as pigs, sheep and poultry, the coyote must now be classified along with the mountain lion as a deer slayer.

In that many persons have been slow to believe that the coyote is a factor in our deer supply we have attempted to gather some evidence tending to prove that this animal is responsible for a considerable loss each year in Trinity County. This evidence is presented herewith.

Fig. 15. Male coyote taken in trap January 31, 1918, 14 miles south of Douglas, Trinity County, California, by C. O. Fisher. The stomach contained deer hair and meat. Photograph by C. O. Fisher.

Bert Higgins, who runs a trap line within the Trinity Game Refuge, reports finding along this one line during one month, the remains of fifteen deer killed by coyotes. Ranger Bucklew in April, 1916, saw a full grown doe, apparently in good condition, pulled down by one coyote.

Mr. Wm. Friend writes as follows concerning his experience with coyotes in the Game Refuge:

"In regard to the deer I found killed by coyotes in the Game Refuge, will say I commenced trapping between Little Creek and Bear Creek on February 1, 1916, and between that date and March 2, 1916, I found the remains of seventeen deer killed by coyotes.

They were all sizes from large bucks to fawns, but mostly small deer. The snow was about two feet deep and the deer had collected near the river and in gulches. After the snow settled the coyotes could run on top, but the deer broke through, so it was an easy matter for the coyote to catch them. In one gulch I came down I found eight deer that had been killed at different times - one of them had been killed

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recently and none of them were over ten days. In many other sheltered places I found remains. In one instance about Feb. 1, T. H. Campbell and I were riding along the road near Philip Habor's place and saw where coyotes had just killed a spike buck and were enjoying a feast when we frightened them away. I also have a large pair of antlers I brought home from one of their victims. It is not only when the snow is on, but in the spring when the deer are weak, and poor, that they destroy a great many. I was coming home from my traps after the snow had gone and not half a mile from the Van Matre place I saw two coyotes that had a large buck run down and would have killed him if I had not happened along at that time. The deer was not able to get up the bank then."

Ranger Gray's report on the coyote is given in full:

"I would like to emphasize the necessity for a state-wide campaign against the coyote and other predatory animals, in which all the people of the state are to a certain extent interested and would help to bear the expenses of such work. It goes without question that a great public benefit would be derived in ridding the country of coyotes, either by increased bounties or by other means that would encourage more trapping. It seems that an increased bounty would be the most effective means of encouraging trapping, and in obtaining the desired result. I have conversed with a great many stockmen and local people during the season with a view to getting actual cases where the coyote has been observed killing game or stock. The result is, few people have been found that have actually seen the coyote killing either wild game or domestic stock; however, they know beyond any question of a doubt that he is responsible for certain large losses in both cases. There is one good reason among others why he is not more often detected in the actual work of killing, for his wandering and search for food is generally done in the hours of the night. In his wild nature he very carefully shuns man, usually selecting the most secluded places in which to carry out his destructive work. Earl Moore, T. Flournoy and other men who have been handling sheep for many years in these mountains advise me that they never saw a coyote actually kill a sheep. However, they state that they have seen them driving and worrying the sheep and upon following the trail they invariably found dead sheep scattered along the route. The greatest losses among this class of stock from the source mentioned is to small bunches separated on the range from the main bands, and left on the range during the night unprotected. W. H. Atkeson of Hoaglin advises me that he saw a coyote kill two small pigs near his ranch house. Many others disappeared in only a few days in the same locality.

Fred Becker, who resides on Pilot Creek, states that he saw four or five coyotes chasing a small deer. He did not know whether the deer was killed. Ben. B. Iliff of this place tells me that during the past winter a blood trail was noted crossing the road near his ranch house. The tracks of a deer were impressed in the snow together with small tracks that resembled those of small dogs. The trail was followed and Mr. Iliff asserts that in a short distance he found the carcass of a large deer and upon his approach two coyotes scampered away. C. W. Vann of this place cites an instance where he saw a coyote catch and kill a quail. Mr. Vann states that while hunting he approached a clump of low brush (poison oak) and flushed a bunch of quail. The quail in leaving the brush were quite close to the ground and he very clearly saw a coyote jump and take one of the birds as it passed very near him. I have found only a few other cases similar to these already mentioned."

Mr. W. T. Shock of Hayfork writes this letter:

"In reading over the weekly Trinity Journal I noticed the letter from W. O. Friend in regard to coyotes and as the Forest requests any good evidence against coyotes I submit the following: As I have trapped and hunted the coyote all my life, I will write a little of my experience. I find that the coyote is very destructive to many kinds of game of this county, not only deer, but all kinds of birds, such as grouse and quail, the nests of which it robs. A coyote can catch plenty of deer when there is no snow, but it destroys more when the snow is deep. Many deer that are found along the rivers are killed in this way. When the heavy snow comes, the deer gather along the rivers and low ground, as the snow is less there. When coyotes get hungry they take after a deer, and if they catch it before it gets to the river they kill it, but if the deer makes into the water, the coyote goes after another one. The coyote will not go into the water, but the deer that run into the water are

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so hot and weak that they freeze to death before venturing out again. I have seen coyotes after deer, and running the coyotes away, I have tried to make the deer get out of the water and could not until I helped them out almost dead, and some have died while I was taking them out of the water. I trapped on the Hayfork Creek above the Game Refuge and near Mr. Dockery's place on Carr Creek last winter and a number of deer were gathered at Mr. Dockery's lower barn eating hay with his cattle. Between the first day of January and the twenty-seventh of February I found the remains of twenty deer, either killed by coyotes or run into the creek and killed, and I caught eleven coyotes."

Mr. Edward Shock, who lives within the Hayfork township and within a few miles of the town of Hayfork, upon his own ranch property, called at our office and made some statements concerning the damage done by the coyote, for which he personally vouches. He states that last summer, he does not remember the exact date, while he was working in his garden he heard a noise on the side hill adjoining the garden plot, and upon glancing up, saw a fawn coming down the hill and it ran into his wire fence three or four times before it managed to get through. Closely pursuing the fawn were two coyotes. Shortly after they got in sight they saw Mr. Shock, stopped, then turned and went back into the bushes. The fawn came into the field and quite close to Mr. Shock, then saw him, became frightened, turned and went back through the fence and up the hill in about the same direction the coyotes had taken. The coyotes no doubt later caught the fawn, since they would merely hide away in the bushes for a little while when interrupted in a pursuit of this kind, then take the track and follow on.

Another instance of Mr. Shock's observation was during this fall while setting a coyote trap. He set his rifle down a few feet from him and in finding a place to drive the stakes to hold the trap he had moved a few feet away from the rifle. While busily engaged he heard a noise and looking around saw a young deer without horns, presumably a doe, come running along closely followed by two coyotes, one of which caught the deer while yet in sight of him. Mr. Shock quickly went for his rifle, but when he got it the coyotes had taken alarm and had left the deer. Its tongue was hanging out and it seemed to be just about run down, but it of course went on out of sight. Mr. Shock is firm in his belief, based on his experience, that in such instances the coyotes were merely interrupted and would take the trail again and no doubt catch the deer.

He trapped nine coyotes within two weeks around his place and states that in opening up some of them to see what the contents of the stomachs were he found that they were largely composed of venison, there being evidence in meat, bones and hair. He also states that the coyotes he has caught were all very fat. Mr. Shock says that the reason for his trapping activity was on account of the coyotes catching the chickens. He has found it impossible to raise pigs unless they are well penned. Mr. Shock is a far better trapper than the average settler and has some methods of trapping that seem to get better results than the ordinary trapper. He says, however, that the coyote is a very difficult animal to trap and that he has found that he gets him more through his curiosity than any actual desire for food. Mr. Shock's experiences concerning the coyote are not at all unusual and could be duplicated by a great many of the settlers throughout the Trinity Forest.

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These are specific, authenticated facts, which could be repeated by every man who has his eyes open. It really is not surprising that the attitude of mind expressed by the following exists. "Why shouldn't I have a deer," the settler says, "which will be eaten anyway by the coyotes; especially when I have killed one or more coyotes myself." Or, as the trapper would say, "Why can't I get a deer, or three or four, during a year? Even if I kill only one panther or trap only six coyotes, I have done more to protect and to increase the deer than any other person or organization has done."

Two important factors in the reduction of a game species are predatory animals and the hunter. We attempt to compensate for loss by the second factor by closing the season for a period of years to allow recuperation. Why could not similar results be obtained by reducing the toll taken by predatory animals? Although it is true that a certain balance is established between a species of game and its enemies when left to nature alone, it has been frequently demonstrated that man can alter such a balance very much to the advantage of the species that has been preyed upon.

Residents of Trinity County are agreed that by far the most pressing need in efficient game protection lies in the control of predatory animals. The liberal bounty on the mountain lion has eliminated this animal as a serious menace, but the coyote still remains abundant enough to be an important factor in conservation. An increase in deer, quail and grouse can best be effected by a vigorous campaign against the coyote and other predatory animals preying upon them.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

February 3, 1919.

"Game laws are not passed with the idea of furnishing sport for a limited number of people, but to protect useful birds and animals for the benefit of the people as a whole."

THE 1916-1918 BIENNIAL.

Although due to war economy the 1916-18 biennial report of the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners is not so large or so attractively colored as the last report, it, nevertheless, contains some interesting facts regarding the activities, receipts, and disbursements of the commission during the past biennial period.

Outstanding features of the work of the past two years have been the erection of a splendid new fish hatchery in Inyo County, the building of a new patrol boat to be used in enforcing the laws in southern California waters and in the carrying on of fishery investigations, the enlargement of the activities of the commercial fishery department, including the administration of the kelp industry, an extensive educational and publicity campaign and the splendid results obtained in enforcing fish and game laws.

New laws enacted by the 1917 legislature have proved valuable. The Supreme Court decisions sustaining the state law prohibiting parcel post shipments of game has effectively stopped a much-used method of evading fish and game laws. The spiked-buck law continues to contribute much toward the conservation of deer, and at the same time has reduced the number of hunting accidents. Seventeen new game refuges created in 1917, comprising a total of 839,180 acres, have been well received by the public and are serving as safe breeding places for game.

The output of the fish hatcheries has been very gratifying, reaching a total of 25,697,420 in 1917 and 36,425,898 in 1916. A 16 per cent increase in the number of trout fry reared has been attained.

Scientific investigations of the fisheries have been undertaken and already valuable light on the habits and life history of the albacore have been obtained. The educational and publicity work of the commission is being well received by the public.

The principal recommendation for new legislation has reference to discretionary powers. Such legislation enabling the commission to close seasons, reduce bag limits, prohibit certain kinds of fishing apparatus, and in general take such immediate steps as will in their opinion afford prompt and effective relief and save from destruction by human hand that part of the wild life which has survived the adversity of nature, is pointed out as the greatest need.

Only a small edition of the biennial has been printed and it will be available only to those sufficiently interested to write to the commission for it.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION NEEDS PLENARY POWERS.

The most important piece of fish and game legislation which the legislature will be called upon to enact this spring will pertain to the granting of plenary powers to the Fish and Game Commission. The need for this legislation has already been pointed out in these pages. The commission is not seeking more power, but simply a chance to make regulations which will allow better administration of the state's wild life resources. It should be clearly understood that regulations can not be enforced at will by the commission, but only after a hearing has been held and the regulations signed by the governor. The proper administration of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act is dependent upon regulations issued by the Department of Agriculture under authority granted it by Congress. To make the administration of state laws efficient, similar powers should be granted the commission managing the fish and game resources.

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CALIFORNIA LAWS WILL BE MODIFIED TO AGREE WITH FEDERAL GAME LAWS.

California was one of the first states to make the game laws conform with those enacted by the federal government and the state has persistently upheld the Federal Migratory Bird Law. It is to be expected, therefore, that at the next legislature the few laws which do not conform with the new Migratory Bird Treaty Act will be modified. The state law still allows hunting one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset. To agree with the federal law this section of the code will have to be modified so as to prohibit all hunting except between sunrise and sunset of each calendar day. The limit law on geese will have to be changed and the dove season made to begin on September 1. In the few cases where the California laws are more stringent than those of the federal government no change will be made.

VIOLATORS MAKE QUEER DEFENSE.

After some chronic violator of the game laws has been apprehended and a quantity of dried venison confiscated the usual plea is that the confiscated meat is bear meat or goat meat. The bones can be identified or the meat tested to prove that it is venison so that this plea as a rule is of little avail.

The same sort of defense has been offered by a violator recently arrested in Tulare County for having in possession the skin of a mountain sheep. This defendant at first maintained that the sheep was not a true wild sheep and later claimed that he killed the animal in self-defense. It will be an easy matter to prove at the trial that the skin held in possession was that of a wild mountain sheep and the violator will undoubtedly be heavily fined.

Fig. 16. Transporting fish to Salmon Creek in Monterey County. Although packed for ten miles on horses, the fish arrived in excellent condition.

MONTEREY STREAMS STOCKED.

Through the efforts of Senator E. S. Rigdon, Salmon Creek in southern Monterey County has been successfully stocked with trout. Although this stream is by nature a splendid trout stream, a large waterfall one mile from the mouth of the creek has made the upper reaches of the stream barren of fish life. It was with difficulty that 18,000 rainbow and steelhead trout recently planted in the stream were transported from the railroad. A fifty-mile haul with auto trucks from San Luis Obispo to Sanco Pojo Creek and then a ten-mile transport by horseback was necessary. The trip was

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accomplished, however, without any appreciable loss in the fish. One variety of trout was placed in one branch of the creek and another in the other branch, about ten miles in all being stocked. From all reports the fish are doing well.

DUCK DISEASE AGAIN APPEARS.

During October, duck disease appeared in the Marysville Butte section of the Sacramento Valley. Hitherto, the disease has been restricted to the vicinity of alkaline lakes in the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley. Many hunters hunting near Colusa and Maxwell on the opening day of the season threw away their ducks after they had discovered many sick and dying birds about some of the ponds. The fact that an epidemic of anthrax had been prevalent in the same vicinity led many persons to believe that the ducks had contracted the same disease. This, however, seems very unlikely in that all birds under artificial conditions are largely immune to the disease, and it is not to be expected that birds of any kind would contract the disease under natural conditions. Sick birds secured showed every symptom of "duck sickness," a disease which is now well known through the investigations of the United States Biological Survey. Mr. Alexander Wetmore, assistant biologist, describes the symptoms as follows (The Duck Sickness in Utah. U. S. Dept. Agric. Bull., 672): 1. Paralysis of nerve centers controlling the muscular system (birds affected are able to support themselves in the air for short distances only or have the wings entirely helpless); 2. respiration is difficult and spasmodic; 3. pulse abnormal when bird is excited and in severe cases is weak and irregular; 4. nictitating membrane of eye reacts slowly (a test of the activity of this membrane is an important symptom); 5. eyes usually swollen and a discharge is noticeable; 6, alimentary tract practically empty, intestines shrunken, firm and much reddened; 7. excreta loose and watery, more or less greenish and voided at frequent intervals; 8. birds appear drowsy and lethargic though alert at the approach of danger.

By November 1 the epidemic had subsided and no more sick ducks were to be seen. The number of birds which fell victims to the disease is estimated at 5,000.

FEDERAL PERMITS.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act provides for the issuance of scientific collectors' permits to all those interested in collecting either specimens or eggs, and also to breeders who desire to breed migratory or insectivorous birds. Permits to collect specimens are issued to properly accredited persons only and are required in addition to those issued under state laws. Applications for federal permits can be obtained when applying for a new state permit.

FISH COOKERY DEMONSTRATIONS.

For the purpose of stimulating the utilization of fish products, the United States Bureau of Fisheries has been conducting a series of demonstrations in fish cookery. Demonstrations have been held in San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, and Alameda, about 40 in all, with an average attendance of more than 100 women at each class. Mrs. Evelene Spencer and Mr. H. L. Kelly have been in charge. These demonstrations are made of practical value by securing the little-used and low-priced fishes, preparing and cooking them in front of the class, explaining every detail, and then serving each one present with a portion to taste. Even minute details of the proper way to skin a fish, remove the backbone, and slice it are shown. With the class watching, it is prepared for the oven, cooked and served.

Mrs. Spencer recommends the discarding of the frying pan, in favor of the hot oven method of cooking. Advantages are found in the elimination of unpleasant odors, the use of less than half the amount of fat usually required, and greater ease for both the cook and the one who has the serving of the fish. This is the method she uses in doing the work herself, and all who eat the cooked fish agree that it far excels in flavor the same kind of fish fried in the old-fashioned way.

The making of salads, both from freshly steamed fish, or from left-over fish is explained as is also the making of souffles, creamed dishes and imitation

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chops. Soups, which for flavor are the equal of any which can be made from meats or oysters, are made from the heads and trimmings ordinarily considered as being only fit for the garbage can.

Thirty-four varieties of fish, not including salmon and halibut, have been used in the demonstrations. Thus, it has been shown that a housewife can cook fish any day in the month, if she wishes, and not have the same kind twice. Of these, the most popular were small sole, skate, sablefish, mackerel, kingfish, yellowtail, shark, shad, rockcod and salmon milts. The price of these fish ranges from 5 to 15 cents per pound, and many hundreds of women were surprised to find a number of them they preferred to even salmon or halibut, which cost from 25 to 40 cents per pound.

Needless to say, these demonstrations have proved very popular with housewives, and have added materially in increasing the demand for flounder, shark, skate, squid, sablefish and other low-priced fishery products of the California markets.

INCREASED CONSUMPTION OF FISH NECESSARY.

Increasing the consumption of fish is far more urgent today than during war times. There is now no submarine menace; there are more ships and there are 200,000,000 people who must be fed if they are to be saved from starvation. Every ton of nonperishable goods possible must be sent to Europe. The use of fresh fish releases easily-shipped meat products for exportation.

There is absolutely no limit to the amount of fish which is now waiting in the ocean, and more are growing to supply our needs. The people of California have responded to every call made on them thus far, and we urge that they continue to show their patriotism and humanitarianism, by a still greater use of fresh fish.

NOTES ON THE NEW GAME REFUGES.

The following notes relative to the recently-formed game refuges have been culled from forest officers' reports for 1917. Apparently, the new refuges are filling the place for which they were set aside.

All refuges in California are created under the districting act and so must be designated as a "fish and game district." Each refuge is lettered with the number of the main game districts of the state in which the refuge is situated prefixed to it.

Fish and Game District 1-A, located in the Klamath National Forest, is admirably situated for the purpose for which it was withdrawn, being a natural breeding ground. It covers an area of about one township and varies in elevation from about 1,700 feet at the Klamath River to about 7,000 feet at the highest point, thus giving both winter and summer feeding ground. The general exposure of the entire area is southwestern, which makes it the very best from a climatic standpoint. There is also one of the largest salt licks known near the center of this refuge.

When the refuge was first created there was much opposition to it, but lately the sentiment has been more favorable.

Fish and Game Districts 1-B and 1-C in Modoc County are ideal breeding places for game and there is absolutely no doubt as to the wisdom of the move in having these areas set aside. The people, as a whole, are strongly in favor of them.

Fish and Game Districts 1-I and 1-J, in the Tahoe and El Dorado National Forests, have not been in existence long enough to note any change in game conditions. While the people most affected accept the establishment of the districts as a matter of law, some criticism is voiced relative to the location. Why was it not located "somewhere else" is the usual comment. This attitude will gradually disappear after a time if the districts receive proper administration.

The people all seem to think that the Chimney Meadow Refuge (Fish and Game District 1-L) will be of great value to the deer as it is the wintering grounds for all the deer in the Cannell Meadow District. Thos. Smith and John Johnson claim that they counted 75 deer in one band last spring in Long Valley, which is a part of this new refuge. There are a great number of hunters from Los Angeles and the Mojave Desert that hunt in this proposed refuge, and it will require a regular paid game warden in that vicinity to properly administer the refuge.

Fish and Game District 2-A covers a fine piece of deer country, having both summer and winter range. The establishment of the refuge was very well received by the public, and it is believed that very little hunting has been done within its boundaries. Considerable complaint was made by hunters and others, because the boundaries of the refuge were not posted. This should surely be done before the opening of the next hunting season.

The people are in favor of Fish and Game Districts 4-A and 4-B, comprising

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600,000 acres within the Angeles National Forest. Deer are becoming more and more plentiful. If anyone is benefited by reason of an open season, it is the resort owners, and yet with the possible exception of one owner, a man who has been in court several times for alleged game violations, I have yet to find a resort owner who is not in favor of the continuance of the game refuges.

When Fish and Game District 4-C was first formed the sentiment against it was very strong. This has changed and one finds very few hunters who do not favor it. The deer are increasing and one sees them in regions where there have been no deer for several years. With the increase of the deer a noticeable increase in mountain lion signs are also seen. Several lions have been killed, and many of the better class of sportsmen are talking of plans to rid the range of this pest. Our greatest trouble, however, is not the lion, but the unscrupulous hunter who sneaks over the boundary of the refuge.

A NEW GAME FARMING PROJECT.

A beautifully illustrated prospectus entitled Wisconsin Zoological Park, for the Propagation, Improvement, and Utilization of Wild Life has recently been issued by a newly-formed corporation with headquarters in Chicago. The intent of the organization is set forth as follows:

Food, it is said, will win this war. And it therefore becomes the duty of everyone to give careful consideration to all plans to increase our food supply.

The American farmers, responding to their country's call, are planting every available foot of their land, which means that we have about reached our maximum in food production unless we can devise some way of utilizing the undeveloped regions. Naturally, our thoughts turn to the nearby cut-over timber lands as a possible solution of this problem. We all understand the difficulties that have presented an almost insurmountable barrier to the development of these sections and the necessity, on account of the scarcity of labor, of finding some use for this land without having to clear away stumps, rocks and timber.

The Wisconsin Zoological Park was created chiefly for the purpose of dealing with this problem. It proposes that these lands be used just as they are, in the breeding and raising of wild life objects as a source of supply.

This is a comparatively new idea, and to be understood and appreciated must be carefully studied. The purpose of this booklet is to explain some of the most important features of this enterprise.

This company proposes to demonstrate in a practical manner how cut-over land can be quickly and profitably utilized in accordance with the ideas above set forth, and at the same time carry on extensive experiments towards the development, improvement and preservation of wild animals.

It is hoped the company will become self-sustaining, but if it does not, those responsible for it have not been actuated by selfish motives. They appreciate that pioneers in any great enterprise must take chances of loss, but are confident of their ability to eventually work out a plan which can be followed with profit by others.

To the uninitiated the plan is a very plausible one, and it will doubtless appeal to many. In view, however, of the success thus far attained in game farming, the outcome of the project as a commercial enterprise seems doubtful. If it will lead to the setting aside of large areas as breeding grounds for native animals, it will be very much worth while.

LOUISIANA ORIGINATES NEW DUCK.

The Department of Conservation of the state of Louisiana is attempting to secure a new duck for their marshes by breeding. The experiments are being carried out on the assumption that if a cross between the summer mallard or black duck and the winter visitant greenhead mallard could be established a race of nonmigratory ducks could be produced for the Louisiana marshes. The new type of mallard is in the third generation and a type has been selected which appears to have characteristics of both the mallard and the black duck. Whether the new duck will become a permanently resident bird capable of being introduced remains to be seen.

ALASKA FISHERY PRODUCTS.

The Fisheries Service Bulletin states that although final figures showing the value of the fishery products of Alaska in 1917 are not yet obtainable, the statistics are practically complete so that a reasonably accurate statement of production can now be made. Compilations indicate that the total value of such products was $51,405,260 in 1917. Of this amount 93 per cent, or $47,778,081, represents the value of the salmon products which consist of 5,947,286 cases of canned salmon, valued at $46,304,090, and 16,347,367 pounds of mild-cured, pickled, dry-salted, fresh and frozen salmon, valued at $1,473,991. The halibut fish-

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eries rank second with an output of products valued at $1,120,226. In the order of production, the herring fisheries come next, with a yield of products valued at $767,729. The value of the cod products was $744,976. Whaling operations returned products worth $653,852. The production of miscellaneous fishery products including clams and other shellfish aggregated $340,396 in value.

This unprecedented yield of fishery products in Alaska at a time when the world is in need of food is called an achievement for which the country may justly feel gratified.

The fur products of Alaska are also of considerable importance and value, as evidenced by the fact that in the year from November 16, 1916, to November 15, 1917, shipments from that territory reached an aggregate value of $1,031,638, exclusive of fur-seal skins and fox skins shipped by the government from the Pribilof Islands. In the calendar year 1917 the government shipped from the Pribilof Islands fur-seal skins valued at $274,291 and fox skins valued at $35,680. —*Science*, June 7, 1918.

NOVA SCOTIA USES WAR METHODS TO CAPTURE VIOLATORS.

The fact that most of the illegal fishing in Nova Scotia has been carried on by gangs of men in the darkest hours of the night when it is impossible to discover the offenders without some means of artificial illumination has prompted authorities to furnish wardens with "Trench Light" pistols. These lights which have been very effective by the allied armies and navies are contained in metallic cartridges and are fired from a breach loading four-bore pistol which throws the magnesium stars to a distance of 400 or 500 feet. The lights burn for five or ten seconds and light up the whole neighborhood so that everything can be distinctly seen even on the darkest night. In addition to its efficacy in illuminating, it acts as a weapon of self-defense which poachers will learn to fear as much as the revolver. The "trench light" has been decided upon only after experiments with acetyline searchlights, electric searchlights, and magnesium Roman candles.

CALIFORNIA TRAPPERS AND THEIR CATCH.

For the open season 1917-18, nearly 4000 trappers' licenses were issued. As the trappers' license law provides for the killing of fur-bearers destroying poultry and domestic animals, no record can be obtained of those so killed and the reports of trappers of the take for the year do not give the total number of animals taken. However, the reports do give a basis for a computation as to the value of the annual take of furs. According to the reports of those holding trappers' licenses the take for last year was as follows:

Species	Number taken	Average price
Skunk	10,480	$1 74
Mink	804	2 95
Pine marten	127	5 90
Fisher	28	----------
Weasel	59	----------
Badger	82	----------
Raccoon	2,309	1 87
Ring-tailed cat	1,381	40
River otter	23	----------
Fox	2,268	2 16
Bear	55	----------
Coyote	1,941	3 00
Mountain lion	7	----------
Wild cat	1,498	1 73
House cat	111	----------
Opossum	18	----------
Muskrat	00	----------
Woodrat	20	----------
Mole	3	----------

The wolverine is apparently a very rare furbearer and not a single skin of this animal was reported. It is also interesting to note that such well-known furbearers as the marten and fisher are so reduced in numbers in this state that only a small number were taken in 1917-18. The average price indicated was obtained by averaging the amount received for at least 100 different pelts of a species.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

A recent report from the United States Supreme Court does not concern the present regulations regarding migratory birds, but relates to the regulations in effect previous to the signing of the treaty with Canada. The present regulations are based on a treaty and will be in effect for fifteen years, unless abrogated by consent of both contracting parties. Because the present regulations are based on a treaty they can not be reviewed by any court.

* * *

On information furnished by deputies of the Fish and Game Commission three violators of the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act have been arrested and each is being held under a $250.00 bond.

* * *

Steelhead trout fishing in the Russian River will be excellent this year. The bar is open and there is plenty of water.

* * *

February 1 will mark the close of one of the best quail seasons in many years.

* * *

The elimination of market hunting by federal enactment has reduced to a minimum violations of the laws protecting waterfowl.

* * *

The game refuges created by the last legislature have now been posted and hunters will have no excuse for hunting within them.

* * *

Plans are being made to secure some moving pictures of the commercial fisheries of southern California to be used in educational work.

* * *

The State Game Farm at Hayward was discontinued on November 16, 1918.

* * *

Deputies of the Fish and Game Commission in the areas where there is waterfowl shooting have been appointed federal wardens. Twenty-one deputies now hold federal commissions.

* * *

Federal permits allowing a rice grower to herd ducks from his fields put a stop to agitation relative to depredations by ducks. No appreciable damage to rice when in the shock was reported.

* * *

The epidemic of duck disease in the vicinity of the Marysville Buttes was of short duration and less serious than similar epidemics which have occurred at Tulare Lake in past years.

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HATCHERY NOTES.

W. H. SHEBLEY, Editor.

FISH DISTRIBUTION, 1918.

While the fish distribution operations for all of the hatcheries were completed by the forepart of October, complete reports have not, as yet, been filed. However, it is possible to give an approximation of the total distribution from the different stations for the season of 1918.

MT. WHITNEY HATCHERY.

The past season has been most favorable for operations at the Mount Whitney Hatchery, and the trout distributed were some of the finest fish ever reared at any of our hatcheries. Some of the eastern brook and Loch Leven trout distributed this year were from four to five inches in length, which is a very remarkable growth for one summer. Following is an approximation of the number of fish distributed:

1,000,000 rainbow trout.
83,000 eastern brook trout.
70,000 Loch Leven trout.
240,000 steelhead trout.
240,000 black-spotted trout.
400,000 golden trout.

The golden trout eggs were obtained from the Cottonwood Lakes Station, which was established for the purpose. Owing to the remoteness of this station from railroad lines and the rough, almost inaccessible country through which the eggs had to be carried by pack animal to the Mount Whitney Hatchery, the extent

Fig. 17. Wild geese at fish pond, Mount Shasta Hatchery, September 30, 1918. Photograph by J. L. Stinnett.

MT. SHASTA HATCHERY.

The approximate total number of fish distributed for the season was as follows:

13,500,000 quinnat salmon.
2,000,000 rainbow trout.
1,100,000 eastern brook trout.
1,600,000 Loch Leven trout.
2,000,000 steelhead trout.
230,000 black-spotted trout.

Two fish distribution cars were operated during most of the distributing season. The fish were all strong and healthy, and nearly all applicants reported that consignments were received and planted in the streams in good condition. Mount Shasta Hatchery is now being put in readiness for the coming season's trout operations and for the salmon work.

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of our operations was necessarily limited, but we feel that the results obtained have justified all the hard work and expense. Although several efforts have been made in past years to collect the eggs of the golden trout, this is the first attempt that has been successful. The success of the operations this season is due to the skill and resourcefulness of Mr. George McCloud, Jr., who was in personal charge of the golden trout egg collecting operations at Cottonwood Lakes and of the Mount Whitney Hatchery, at which station the eggs were hatched and the fry reared. The golden trout are very difficult to rear, but the results obtained in this delicate work far exceeded our expectations.

Plants of golden trout were made in the Santa Ana River, San Bernardino County, and in Mammoth Creek and Convict Lake, Mono County. A shipment of golden trout was planted in Lake Tahoe, and a consignment sent to Mount Shasta Hatchery to be liberated in the McCloud River at a later date. Practically all of the waters of southern California and the lower San Joaquin Valley counties were stocked with fish from the Mount Whitney Hatchery this season.

Fish Distribution Car No. 01 was detached from distribution operations at Mount Shasta Hatchery the forepart of September and sent to southern California to undertake the shipping of fish from the Mount Whitney Hatchery. The work was completed in a little over a month. After the completion of the season's fish-cultural operations the crew was assigned to make the improvements on the Mount Whitney Hatchery grounds, and this work is now progressing nicely.

MT. TALLAC HATCHERY.

The Mount Tallac Hatchery was operated as in past seasons, black-spotted trout eggs being taken from the fish ascending Taylor Creek to spawn. In addition to the 1,200,000 eggs of this species hatched at the station for distribution in the tributary streams of Lake Tahoe in the vicinity of Mount Tallac, shipments of eggs were made to Tahoe Hatchery, Mount Shasta Hatchery and the Feather River Experimental Station; 150,000 rainbow and 380,000 steelhead trout fry were also distributed in the tributary streams of Lake Tahoe from Mount Tallac Hatchery this season. The steelhead trout should thrive well in the waters of Lake Tahoe, and the addition of this valuable species of trout to the other varieties in the lake will be greatly appreciated by the anglers of the state who enjoy the fishing in this region.

TAHOE HATCHERY.

From Tahoe Hatchery were distributed 15,000 rainbow and 420,000 black-spotted trout fry in the streams and lakes in the Tahoe Basin and in the vicinity of Truckee.

FORT SEWARD HATCHERY.

The streams of Humboldt and Trinity counties were stocked with rainbow and steelhead trout fry to the number of 200,000 and 1,000,000 respectively from Fort Seward Hatchery this season. Mad River, tributaries of Humboldt Bay, and Eel River and tributaries, received most of the fish.

Quinnat salmon eggs received from egg collecting operations on Eel River near Bryan's Rest last fall were hatched at Fort Seward Hatchery, together with shipments of eggs of the same species from Mount Shasta Hatchery, and the resulting fry to the number of 1,000,000 were planted in Mad River, tributaries of Humboldt Bay and Eel River. As egg collecting operations near Bryan's Rest were not satisfactory, a new experimental station was established this fall on Bull Creek, a tributary of Eel River, near Dyerville. Owing to the fact that there was not enough rainfall to raise the river sufficiently to enable the spawning fish to ascend the stream, no Quinnat salmon eggs were taken early in the season, but later rains during the month of November improved conditions.

DOMINGO SPRINGS STATION.

The season's operations at Domingo Springs Hatchery were very successful. In addition to the rainbow trout eggs sent to other hatcheries, 317,000 were hatched and the fry planted in lakes and streams in Lassen and Placer counties. A shipment of 100,000 steelhead eggs was sent to Domingo Springs, and the resulting fry planted in lakes in that vicinity.

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UKIAH HATCHERY.

The streams of Mendocino and Sonoma counties received their usual portions of steelhead trout fry from Ukiah Hatchery this season, 420,000 fish being planted in the two counties.

ALMANOR HATCHERY.

Egg collecting operations at Almanor Hatchery resulted in a take of less than 200,000 rainbow eggs. The resulting fry were distributed in Lake Almanor and near-by streams.

FEATHER RIVER HATCHERY.

Operations at the experimental station established near Blairsden on the Western Pacific Railroad were not successful, as the water supply from Grey Eagle Creek did not prove to be satisfactory for fish-cultural operations. Rainbow and black-spotted eggs were shipped to the station to be hatched and reared, but they died in great numbers both before and after hatching. The station has been dismantled, and the equipment will be used at one of the other stations.

BEAR LAKE HATCHERY.

Fish distribution operations were finished on September 5, and the station closed after completing the most successful season since the hatchery was established. At the egg collecting station on North Creek, 3,500,000 rainbow eggs were taken. After being "eyed," they were shipped to Mount Shasta, Mount Whitney, Tahoe, and Bear Lake Hatchery at Green Spot Springs; 300,000 were also hatched at the North Creek Station, and planted in Big Bear Lake. A total of 1,075,000 rainbow trout fry were distributed in streams of San Bernardino County, and in Big Bear Lake, from Bear Lake and North Creek stations. At the present time assistants are engaged in making repairs and improvements at the two stations. Negotiations are now under way for the purchase of a fine power boat for use in egg collecting operations, transferring materials and supplies, etc., which will greatly facilitate the work next spring.

BROOKDALE HATCHERY.

Steelhead trout fry to the number of 700,000 were distributed in the streams of Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties from Brookdale Hatchery this season, in addition to shipments of steelhead eggs made to Mount Shasta and Mount Whitney hatcheries for distribution in other sections of the state.

WAWONA HATCHERY.

The completion of the new hatchery at Wawona enabled us to handle the fish to much better advantage this year. Streams in the vicinity of Wawona received 75,000 rainbow and 195,000 steelhead trout fry.

CLEAR CREEK HATCHERY.

A small hatchery has just been completed on Clear Creek, Lassen County, near Westwood. Eggs will be shipped to this station from Almanor and Domingo Springs hatcheries next season, and the fry hatched for distribution in the streams in the vicinity of Westwood.

KLAMATH RIVER STATION.

The new Klamath River Hatchery, which is being constructed by the California-Oregon Power Company, and which will be turned over to the California Fish and Game Commission when completed, in lieu of the construction of a fish ladder over the Copco Dam, is well under way. As it was not possible to complete this hatchery in time to trap this year's run of Quinnat salmon, a temporary station was established at Klamathon. Owing to the failure of the main run of salmon to reach the point at which the racks are located, on account of the long dry fall, the take is therefore much below normal.

COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. Scofield, Editor.

TIDE CONDITIONS INJURE FISHERIES.

The unusual conditions of water temperature and currents along the California coast during the past summer were largely responsible for a greatly reduced catch of albacore in southern California and evidently caused the appearance of new and strange fishes as elsewhere noted in this magazine. They also affected the catch of sardines and salmon and seriously handicapped the

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growth of kelp. For nearly five months sardines were not found in sufficient numbers in southern California to keep the canneries busy.

Kelp. The kelp on the surface of the water ceased to grow and the serious shortage of this seaweed which occurred made it very difficult for the kelp potash companies to secure enough to supply their plants. It is feared that even the new shoots, which come up and take the place of the long stipes on the surface of the water after they have been cut, have been killed. The best growing time of the kelp has usually been in the winter months. Just how the stunted summer growth will affect the growth during this winter is as yet unknown.

It is now quite certain that the close of the war will have the effect of putting many of the California kelp potash companies out of business. Before the war the price of potash was about $65 per ton, but for the past year it has been between $250 and $350 per ton. If the price of potash decreases one-half, the majority of the companies will have to cease operations. Already the demand for potash to be used in the manufacture of munitions of war has ceased to exist. The immense plant of the Hercules Powder Company near San Diego has discontinued harvesting kelp and has issued notice to its one thousand employees that shortly their services will not be required. This company has done a great deal of investigation work in developing important by-products through the manufacture of which they expected to be able to continue operations even after the close of the war, but it has finally been decided that in view of the market prices that will have to be met shortly and the entire lack at present of a market for certain of the by-products, it will be best to reduce the operations of the plant to a very small scale and only two or three by-products will be produced there with a small force.

Salmon. The salmon catch at Monterey during the summer was only about half the usual amount. The fish almost entirely disappeared before the end of May. The catch for June, which is usually large, was a failure. But the fish which escaped the hooks of the fishermen in Monterey Bay later made their appearance in San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento River on their way to cast their spawn in the river's headwaters. Their appearance in the river was much later than usual and at the time when the fishermen and salmon packers were importuning the Fish and Game Commission and the Federal Food Administration to extend the season the salmon put in their appearance in great numbers. For a period of two weeks the salmon kept coming in such numbers that sufficient help could not be obtained to take care of the catch. The final result has been that the combined catch of Monterey Bay and the Sacramento River was the largest for several years. The amount of salmon taken up to the end of September in Monterey Bay, outside of the Golden Gate, San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento River was 11,040,075 pounds.

The catch of salmon by trolling at Fort Bragg was good; the total amount of the catch reaching a million and a quarter pounds. The run at Eel River was considered a failure, the amount taken being less than half the usual catch. The run on the Klamath River also shows a falling off.

THE SALMON INDUSTRY MENACED.

To dam the waters of the Sacramento at the narrow Iron Canyon above Red Bluff and thus make an immense impounding reservoir for flood control and irrigation purposes, has for years been a dream of those who would develop the resources of the upper Sacramento Valley and of those who have been interested in controlling the floods on the lower river. There have been frequent efforts to make this dream come true, but it is only recently that there have been hopes of its realization.

It is now proposed by assessing the land in the area to be benefited and by the aid of the state and the United States government to raise $20,000,000 for the construction of the dam and irrigation canals. The site of the dam is seven miles above Red Bluff. The proposed dam will be so high that salmon ascending the river to cast their spawn will not be able to pass even by means of the best "fish ladders" which have been devised. An impassable dam at the Iron Canyon will cut the salmon off from all the upper tributaries in which they naturally spawn, with the exception of Mill

Creek. If remedial measures can not be devised three-fourths of the present salmon run will be lost.

Remedies which suggest themselves are to attempt to establish runs in other streams, especially in tributaries of the San Joaquin and to establish a hatchery at the dam. Many difficulties present themselves in any plan to catch salmon at the dam, chief of which is unsuitable water temperature. Salmon of the spring run will not be mature enough to warrant holding at the dam for spawning purposes and if eggs are collected at the dam from the summer and fall run, the water available for the hatching will be too warm. Even if the eggs could be held in a hatchery at the dam until they are "eyed" at which stage they could be shipped to other hatcheries more favorably located on the river above, there would still be the problem of getting the resulting fry down over the dam in their seaward migration.

If such a dam is built, and it appears now it will be built, the salmon industry is sure to suffer an irreparable loss.

SPERM WHALE TAKEN OFF MONTEREY.

On November 21, Monterey fishermen found a dead sperm whale off Point Pinos near Monterey. They towed the carcass to Monterey where it was sold to one of the local fish concerns for $300. The length of the whale was 65 feet and it produced ten barrels of case oil. This species of whale is very scarce on this coast, and according to old residents of Monterey this is the first sperm whale that has been taken in that region for at least forty years.

LOCATING SARDINES BY AEROPLANE.

The serious shortage of sardines in southern California during the past summer has suggested the idea of locating the schools of sardines by means of aeroplanes. The great difficulty in catching sardines is in locating the schools of fish. On account of light on the surface of the water it is difficult to locate a school of sardines unless the boat runs into them. Fishing is usually carried on at night, at which time the phosphorescent glow caused by the swimming fish is more easily seen, but even at night this phosphorescent light can be seen only a short distance. It is a well-known fact that schools of fish can be more easily seen from an elevation where the observer is away from the glare of the reflected light at the surface of the water. From an aeroplane schools of fish are easily seen which are invisible to a person from the deck of a boat. At such times as fishermen are unable to locate schools of sardines, or of albacore for that matter, it would be practicable to employ an aeroplane for the purpose, which adds one more argument for those who would commercialize the aeroplane.

NEW WHALING STATION ON MONTEREY BAY.

The California Sea Products Company has almost completed a large, modern, fully equipped whaling station at Moss Landing on Monterey Bay, which will employ forty men when in operation. In addition to the whaling plant this company expects in time to operate a sardine cannery and during off seasons to use their boats to supply fish to the fresh fish trade.

There has been some objection to the establishment of a whaling station on Monterey Bay for fear that it would injure the sardine industry, under the belief that it is the whales that drive the sardines into the bay. This is an old belief which comes to us from the European coast where at one time it was believed whales drove the herring into the sheltered waters of the bays and fjords. Herring do not enter sheltered waters along the coast to escape whales, but for the purpose of spawning in the shallow waters where their eggs are attached to rocks and seaweed. There is no evidence that whales drive sardines into bays.

NEW FISH NET.

A new fish net has been devised for catching sardines and other small fish known as the purse-lompara net. This net is in use at Monterey and is in all respects a lompara net except that a purse line has been added to the bunt of the net which enables the operators to pull the lead line in more quickly after the net is partly in, thus impounding the fish in the bunt of the net. With this net it is easier to catch sardines in the day time without their sounding and getting under the net when it is operated in deep water. By using this semipurse arrangement a shallower net than otherwise can be used, which makes its operation quicker and more economical.

CONSERVATION IN OTHER STATES.

CONSERVATION LESSONS FROM MASSACHUSETTS.

The Massachusetts Fish and Game Commissioners are calling attention to the need of the conservation of fish by means of "little lessons." One of them follows:

"The advance of civilization always decreases the natural fish and game supply. Preach and practice conservation.

"Don't take fish that are full of spawn; leave them to deposit their eggs and the small to grow into mature fish.

"Don't take more than you need.

"Don't try for the largest number; try for the largest fish.

"Don't try to get the last one; leave some for others.

"Report violations to the Fish and Game Commissioners.

"Remember, this is your sport. No one is as interested in it as the hunters and fishermen, and it is up to you to make or ruin it."—*American Field*, May 2, 1918.

CATS BECOME GAME IN NEW YORK.

In New York a bill has been passed, permitting any person over twenty-one years of age who holds a hunting or trapping license to destroy humanely a cat at large found hunting or killing any protected bird, or with such a bird in its possession. The bill makes it the duty of the game protectors to kill all offending cats.

MINNESOTA GAME REFUGES.

In the State of Minnesota state parks and state forest reserve lands have automatically become refuges for game. The legislature of 1915 provided for a practical way of establishing game refuges on privately owned land. Already seventeen refuges have been established in this way, embracing 531,925 acres. The combined area of all of the Minnesota game refuges is 1,877,813 acres. This method of protecting and restoring game has met with instant and hearty approval by the people of the state and in every instance in which a refuge has been established, there has been a unanimity of sentiment among the people interested in it.—Bien. Rpt., Minn. Fish and Game Comm., 1916.

MINNESOTA DISTRIBUTES FISH.

Under the authority of the Public Safety Commission, the state of Minnesota has been catching and distributing fish. From October 15, 1917, to January 1, 1918, the production of state-caught fish amounted to 77,851 pounds. Great care is being exercised not to take fish that are desirable for angling from localities where people can and will use lakes for that purpose. In such localities fishing is confined to rough fish only. As a contribution to the food supply the state fishing has demonstrated its importance and has proved to be popular and successful. Distribution has been made through game wardens, representatives of the Safety Commission, meat dealers and other individuals.

NEW JERSEY RESTOCKED WITH RABBITS.

The game farm of the New Jersey State Fish and Game Commission has two thousand rabbits which will be distributed throughout the state. Rabbits will be placed in districts where they have been hunted out.

LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

TREE-DUCKS SUCCESSFULLY BRED IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY.

A pair of fulvous tree-ducks (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) were secured from the State Game Farm in the fall of 1916 and placed on my pond at Cupertino. In June, 1917, I had a suspicion that they were laying, as I found several eggs which I could not classify in different parts of the enclosure. I have learned from experience that one can not disturb ducks during the laying and breeding season, and in the past I know that I have broken up several "settings" because of my curiosity. In June of this year I noted from casual observance that only

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one of my fulvous ducks was on the pond, and fearing that the other had been lost or had died, I started an investigation and after some days found the nest very close to the water's edge on a ledge of rock in a rustic rockery constructed in the pond for ornamental purposes. This ledge was concealed by overhanging vines and it was very difficult for me to see it. Not wishing to disturb the birds, I did not make a close investigation, but as near as I could tell, there were five or more eggs in the nest. (This last is somewhat of a guess on my part.) As the birds seemed to be sitting, I left the nest severely alone, and some time around the 20th of June (I can not give the exact date) I was rewarded in seeing the mother duck bring out four young ones into the pond. These little birds did not appear to me to be much larger than young quail and I used my very best efforts in an attempt to segregate them, but without avail. My present pond is not constructed properly for breeding purposes, having been erected in the first instance purely for ornamental purposes, and the birds have not access to and from the water at all points, with the result that these little ducks became chilled and drowned, or were molested by the other ducks, all dying within four or five days. —J. V. DeLaveaga.

RARE FISH FROM MONTEREY BAY.

The true halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) was occasionally taken this last summer (1918) in Monterey Bay. It has not been reported before south of San Francisco.

A specimen of a fish sometimes called the "blacksmith" (*Chromis punctipinnis*) was brought to Hopkins' Marine Station at Pacific Grove by Japanese fishermen this summer. This fish has hitherto been unknown north of the Santa Barbara Channel.—E. C. Starks.

MARLIN-SPIKE FISH USED AS FOOD.

The marlin-spike fish (*Tetrapterus nutsukusii*) now being caught by anglers near Santa Catalina Island is finding a good market in Los Angeles at a retail price of 25 cents per pound. It is said to be undistinguishable in taste from the swordfish. The writer recently enjoyed eating some of it, and found it one of the most delicious fishes he had ever tasted. Fresh tuna was served at the same time for comparison. It was much coarser fleshed and much less delicately flavored than the marlin-spike fish.—E. C. Starks.

BREEDING OF THE FULVOUS TREE-DUCK IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY.

Early in the month of November, 1917, a fulvous tree-duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) was brought to me for identification by Miss Ethel Emerson. It had been caught when but a downy bird in the salt marsh near Mountain View, Santa Clara County, and was now nearly grown. Several others taken at the same time had died, one by one in captivity, but the survivor, when placed in a large cage with a pair of bantams, soon became very active and contented. Later its plaintive whistle might be frequently heard during the night, and at times it seemed to show irritation at close confinement. It remained wild and was easily frightened at the approach of people or other animals, as dogs and cats. When opportunity offered it made its escape after having spent somewhat over a year in captivity.

The most interesting point in all this is that it appears to furnish the first account of the breeding of the species in the marshes of San Francisco Bay, and I believe that the bird has not been recorded before in Santa Clara County. —J. O. Snyder.

BANDED PINTAIL TAKEN IN ALAMEDA COUNTY.

On November 13, 1918, I shot at Alvarado, California, a pintail duck (*Dafila acuta*) bearing a metal band stamped "U. S. Biological Survey, No. 4009." Upon returning this band to Washington the following information was obtained:

The duck was captured while sick with alkali poisoning at Utah Lake, cured and banded October 10, 1916, after which it was exhibited with others at the Utah State Fair, and released. Its capture is good evidence of the permanence of the cure, and is of interest because of the fact that over two years intervened between capture and the date of banding.—Earle Downing.

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REPORTS.

CALIFORNIA FISHERY PRODUCTS—JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 1918.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Alameda, Contra Costa	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Total	Mexico
Albacore							46,129		114,450	918	6,183,413		816,728	7,001,059	
Anchovy	100		3,800				7,146	43,987	144	21,307	760,329		600	186,678	310
Barracuda								33,361	3,990	10,243	788,023		573,677	1,406,590	116,692
Bonito							1,424	354	296,556				670,169	1,505,726	2,645
Bocaccio		1,603	1,936						31,261					291,873	
Bluefish							907		972					31,261	
Chilipepper														1,879	
Carp				1,187	12,773	8,588	347							22,895	
Catfish		260		644	1,460	5,422								7,786	
Croakers											20,754		893	21,647	
Coalfish							85,186		37					85,223	
Cultus cod	499	11,852	6,116				224,653	42,437	20,225		1,613			307,895	
Dolphin							22,570		1,985		720			720	
Dogfish			74,920				381,278	25,125	740		497		6,127	106,009	2,615
Flounder	705					58	1,758	1,721	11,795	57,823	32			407,988	
Halibut	19,750	30,172	1,094				54,122	8,000	220	64	88,045		20,077	232,235	1,438,057
Hake										175			457	62,863	
Herring	174						24,973	10,508	54,097	400	28,771	160	5,095	349	
kingfish								620	911,577	4,280	789,377		29,650	124,004	
Mackerel														1,735,504	41,191
Mullet											2,014			2,014	
Marlin														274	
Pike						274	562	333	10		1,105		100	2,110	
Pompano							12,884	794	360	810	4,133		390	30,530	
Perch	10,646		513							3,633	171,958		98,073	278,684	3,090
Rock bass							408,698	169,487	316,584	12,761	138,361		175,558	1,242,704	4,090
Rockfish	20,079	454	342				1,349,280	651,809	71,220	23,690	2,219			2,098,823	
Sole	25						1,335,980	77,618	171,156					8,123,855	
Salmon	511,711	676,297	126,843	1,949,735	462,984	2,808,534	56,982	11,078	107,960	7,283	19,061	1,385	7,215	226,277	70
Smelt	2,054		12,984			25	28,809	102,062	47,306	59,384	630,600	395	21,912	890,002	146,908
Sea bass (white)			34							2,427	33,389		31,856	67,672	2,915
Sea bass (black)							266,694	30,852	5,762		6,902			410,020	
Sand dab															

Suckers					765								765	
Striped bass			1,857	11,029	2,324	53,481	53,167		94				121,952	
Roe shad					43	123							166	
Shad				2,053	678	4,544	93						7,368	
Buck shad					515	5,934							6 449	
Skipjack										2,134,341		2,719	2,137,060	
Sturgeon														
Sardine	741						283,210	107,715	27,761,816	42	485,841	2,432,666	31,072,031	
Skate							41.458	390	3,210		1,237		46,295	
Sword fish											16,962		16,862	
Sculpin											3,479		3,479	
Surf fish											3,945		3,945	
Sea trout											537	276	813	
Sheepshead											526	1,376	1,902	
Tom cod							638	55			11,197		11,890	
Trout (farm)							286						286	
Trout (steelhead)	7,279												7,279	
Turbot											12		12	
Tuna								315	1,012	1,009	4,505,777	143,702	4,651,500	
Whitebait							21,068						21,068	
White fish											2,179		2,179	
Yellowtail							21,520	21,349	13,116	15,506	2,556,327	3,593,169	6,220,987	17,219
Miscellaneous	2,000				72		29,544	750		1,554	82,445	12,952	129,317	126,290
Totals	575,743	720,628	241,436	1,964,648	481,614	2,895,083	4,860,135	1,341,120	29,937,504	223,299	19,497,520	1,890	8,645,437	71,376,099	1,902,087
Crustaceans—														
Crab (doz.)	62		12				1,662		1				1,767	
Spiny lobster														
Shrimp							249,562						249,562	
Ecrevisse														
Mollusks—														
Squid							120		23,729				23,849	
Cuttlefish							2,385		294				2,679	
Clam pismo								332		206,686			207,018	
Clam cockle			6,669										6,669	
Clam softshell	1,085	3,604	38,185			51,720							94,594	
Clam mixed			3,767				35		340				4,142	
*Oyster (shell) No.			425,395				1,518,335						1,943,730	
†Oyster, No.			272,021										272,021	
Abalones										95,345			95,345	
Mussels						793	1,142		123,449				125,884	

*Eastern. †Native.

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

September 1, 1918, to December 1, 1918.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	38	$645 00
Deer—close season—killing or possession	3	75 00
Female deer, spike bucks, fawns—killing or possession	25	607 00
Running deer with dogs, close season	1	25 00
Failure to retain portion of deer head bearing horns	7	150 00
Illegal deer hides—possession	2	100 00
Bear—close season—killing	1	----------
Quail—close season—killing or possession	11	325 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	2	----------
Duck—close season—killing or possession, excess bag limit	7	240 00
Shooting ducks from power boat in motion	1	25 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season—killing or possession	2	50 00
Rail—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Wild pigeon—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	8	70 00
Shore birds—close season—killing or possession	3	75 00
Night shooting	13	225 00
Total game violations	126	$2,662 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	5	$125 00
Fishing for profit without license	7	80 00
Fishing with nets in restricted district	6	650 00
Striped bass—underweight	8	100 00
Salmon—Saturday and Sunday fishing close season—taking or possession, excess limit	7	600 00
Clams—undersize—excess limit	3	75 00
Abalones—undersize—shipping out of state	5	75 00
Spiny lobsters—close season—taking or possession	1	----------
Total fish violations	42	$1,705 00
Grand total fish and game violations	168	$4,367 00

SEIZURES—FISH, GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

September 1, 1918, to December 1, 1918.

Game.		
Deer meat	194	pounds
Hides	6	
Ducks	425	
Quail	49	
Doves	1	
Shore birds	4	
Nongame birds	10	
Rabbits	8	
Miscellaneous game	10	
Fish.		
Striped bass	841	pounds
Salmon	15,665	pounds
Trout	64	pounds
Crabs	157	
Pismo clams	403	
Abalones	121	
Illegal nets	3	
Searches.		
Illegal fish and game	4	

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—YEAR 1918.

Item of expense	May	June	July	August	September
General administration	$1,964 69	$1,875 49	$2,288 08	$1,844 69	$1,822 36
Research, publicity and educational (game)	422 19	309 83	333 24	259 40	363 99
Printing	262 48	45 00	769 95	511 84	
Fish exhibits		5 50			
Game exhibits		3 50			
Game farm	307 07	249 99	265 26	286 32	174 15
Mountain lion bounties	290 00	170 00	380 00	130 00	180 00
Lithographing hunting licenses	995 00				
Lithographing angling licenses					
Hunting license commissions	1,681 70	596 60	807 70	692 50	2,857 00
Angling license commissions	709 10	1,100 90	1,500 90	380 50	1,243 90
Market fishing license commissions	309 75	41 50	47 50	73 50	53 00
	$6,941 98	$4,398 31	$6,392 63	$4,178 75	$6,694 40
San Francisco district	$5,334 17	$5,788 45	$5,933 32	$6,398 24	$6,241 56
Sacramento district	3,542 81	3,704 20	4,036 63	3,905 00	4,003 60
Los Angeles district	2,537 28	2,462 45	2,304 00	2,128 17	2,491 26
Launch patrol	903 72	1,056 29	1,350 96	1,209 66	924 31
Prosecutions (fish and game)	104 75	318 49	93 50	73 75	87 85
Crawfish inspection	33 33				
Winter game feeding					
Accident and death claims	124 04	155 05	185 19	186 35	124 04
	$12,580 10	$13,484 93	$13,903 60	$13,901 17	$13,872 62
Hatchery administration	$1,030 65	$841 61	$1,081 33	$817 63	$1,040 83
Mount Shasta hatchery	1,544 41	2,024 76	3,812 12	6,679 96	3,090 54
Klamath station	6 60	5 60			803 99
Mount Whitney hatchery	2,168 48	1,974 57	1,774 34	2,512 81	2,204 94
Cottonwood Lakes station	58 48	675 60	196 10	45	
Tahoe hatchery	40 19	96 00	205 19	236 38	299 30
Tallac hatchery	886 16	405 06	469 74	206 01	67 85
Fort Seward hatchery	500 61	461 69	398 41	283 80	100 00
Eel River station				4 75	486 50
Ukiah hatchery	448 30	293 64	187 30	187 83	5 20
Snow Mountain station	155 60	100 00			
Brookdale hatchery	220 09	203 72	291 16	340 13	201 61

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Item of expense	May	June	July	August	September
Scott Creek station	$76 00	$30 00	$167 00	$31 00	$30 00
Feather River hatchery	521 27	494 56	158 06	20 15	
Almanor hatchery	719 20	146 00	113 10	190 10	4 80
Domingo Springs hatchery	203 80	137 72	150 55	263 33	366 42
Clear Creek hatchery					27 93
Bear Lake hatchery	566 83	402 85	247 47	336 84	202 10
North Creek station					
Wawona hatchery	114 80	668 00	96 19	24 35	
Yosemite hatchery					
Fish distribution	373 68	963 15			
Fish transplantation			4 56	3 00	3 00
Screen, fishway and water pollution	473 36	566 19	1,022 78	544 51	409 83
Special field investigations			205 50	60 00	
	$10,108 51	$10,490 72	$10,589 90	$12,743 03	$9,344 84
Department of Commercial Fisheries	1,927 83	2,765 49	2,611 32	2,598 85	1,846 93
	$31,558 42	$31,139 45	$33,497 45	$33,421 80	$31,758 79
Department of Engineering—					
Launch "Albacore"		$3,709 42	$43 40		
Yosemite hatchery					$327 27

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THE CONSERVATION OF OUR FISHERIES.

By WILL F. THOMPSON.

Fisheries are subject to depletion because of too intense exploitation, as has been proved in Europe and in our own country. It is the duty of the government, as the one element in the situation which is concerned with the perpetuation of the fisheries, to be able to recognize depletion, to know how to prevent it, and how best to promote the fisheries. It implies knowledge, perhaps not of what we are fond of terming pure science, but rather of applied, although the things to be applied are frankly still in large part to be discovered. Men engaged in educational work are almost invariably engrossed in the more abstract branches of science, and the commercial firms are thus far not interested in carrying on research save for the purpose of furthering the methods of utilization of the products. It is therefore left very largely to governmental authorities, on whom the responsibility of regulation rests, to pursue the subject.*

*See Fish Bulletin No. 2 for a more extensive discussion of this subject.

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But what are the problems involved, and what must be done to recognize depletion? A fishery is, one may say, the reaping of a harvest which has been sowed by Nature, and is subject to great natural fluctuations and has unknown power of resistance in the face of continual reaping. The primitive man who went into the rice swamps and gathered his rice, without thought of how it was sowed, or how long it took to grow, was no worse than we are in our primitive attitude regarding our fisheries. The failure of his crop threatened his livelihood, yet he knew nothing regarding the causes of the failure, nor the fluctuations which might occur. What were these changes, were they due to his continual reaping, were they preventable, or might they be foretold? Just so we are asking today, what are these great fluctuations in our fisheries which may mean the prosperity or ruin of our industry, and how may they be prevented or foretold? If we can not cultivate, how may we preserve? They are elemental questions, indeed, to be asking on the threshold of an era of exploitation.

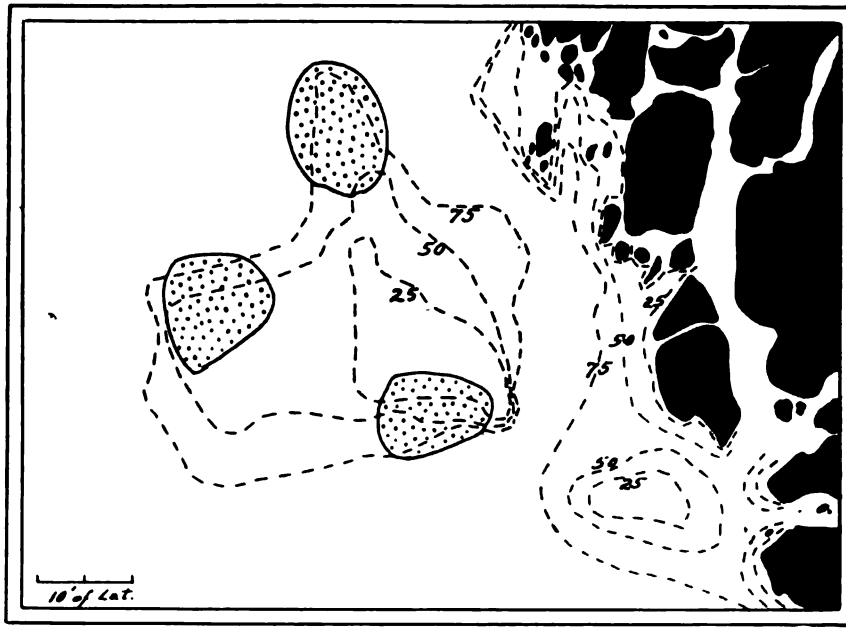

Fig. 18. Diagram of halibut bank in the North Pacific, illustrating the areas within which halibut are considered abundant enough to justify fishing. Depths shown by contour lines, fishing area by stippled spaces.

Men in general do not know what they are dealing with when they pursue a fishery for a certain species. Thus the conception that a species is as inexhaustible as the ocean is large is an erroneous one. The fish in the sea are distributed as unevenly throughout its parts as wild animals are on the land, with this qualification, that only the borders are inhabited by them to any extent. Thus a halibut fishery exists only on particular small areas called banks, or parts of banks, along the edge of the continental self in from thirty to a hundred and fifty fathoms where the conditions are suitable. In fact, just as mountain sheep are limited in their range, so are the halibut.

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Then what strain will a species stand? Some think that the capacity of a species is limitless, because of the great number of eggs each individual produces. The halibut lays over a million and a quarter eggs every year of its breeding life, perhaps ten million in all, and the male produces the fertilizing sperm for the same; but this abundance of eggs merely foreshadows many dangers to the young, for from these ten million need come but two mature animals to maintain the species. If there were constantly more than necessary to maintain the numbers of the species, then the resultant increase must, however slight, eventually overcrowd the waters of the sea; and if there were ever so small a lack every year, then the species must vanish ultimately. Man's influence, however slight, like weighted dice in a game, might well, in the end make loss inevitable if it were not for the probability that many forces come into play to favor threatened species. Are those forces potent enough to counterbalance man's influence? Do we know that they are sufficient to avert final loss?

But has there ever been such a loss? Have not men fished for many centuries in the waters of Europe without over-fishing? Why should depletion occur now rather than long ago? But we know that this very thing has happened, and that there is good reason why it should have happened in our day. The great plaice fisheries in the North Sea have been proved over-fished, and in our own waters the halibut fisheries and those for the salmon of the Frazer are good examples of the same. And the reasons are not far to seek. They may be found in the relatively recent invention of the canning process, in the use of steam and gasoline for transportation, and in the use of ice and cold storage methods of preserving food. Salmon from the Frazer is known in Africa and Mexico nearly as well as we know it in America. Halibut taken by steamers and gasoline-driven boats in the Pacific is carried by express trains across the continent and across the Atlantic to England in a fresh condition. The cold-storage and the canning of fish have abolished boundaries and "off-seasons" in so far as many species are concerned. The net result of all this has been the recent vast enlargement of the market, and with that has come the equally vast enlargement of the fishing industry. This marvelous growth of our fisheries has not been appreciated, I am sure. Our sardine fishery, totaling in 1917 over 100,000,000 pounds, has arisen within the last four years. The great halibut fishery, which reached a maximum of 70,000,000 pounds a year, began in 1890, and is now on the decline. What will the future show to us in this regard? Well may we think seriously, and consider our words when we feel tempted to say that the resources of the sea are inexhaustible. The population to be fed may double its numbers in the next fifty years, and transportation may become twice as efficient. What will happen then?

And if the total catch continues to increase, as it has in the past, how may we recognize the commencement of depletion? First of all we must discount in our statistics the marvelous growth in apparatus and equipment, and discover whether a greater effort is required each year to gather the same amount of fish; in other words, ascertain whether decreased abundance necessitates greater effort. This means the abandonment of the old statistical ideal of portraying the magnitude of the industry, and substituting for it a more rational one of the observation of the real abundance of the fish.

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But when a decrease is discovered, we must know whether it is a natural one or due to over-fishing, and we must know in time to take remedial measures, not when commercial extinction has solved our doubts. For there are great fluctuations in abundance (of very different extent in the various species) which are not the result of man's efforts but of natural causes, and a decrease in numbers of fish because of such is, of course, not permanent, any more than the causes are. To know the character of such a decrease implies a study of the biology of the species, which provides a distinctive mark for the results of over-fishing in many cases, if not in all. It also implies advancement of the science of the subject, a greater knowledge of the laws which govern the matter, for what is known at present is undoubtedly ill-defined.

The laws seem to be much the same as those which govern the human population, and the results of over-fishing what might be expected if "over-fishing" of human beings could be carried on in the same way. If the adults are removed by "over-fishing" the relative numbers of the adults decrease; and if the fishery continues to remove an equal number, the catch becomes a constantly greater proportion of the total left, thus heightening the rate of decrease. But if the young are not produced because of defective spawning conditions—which can not be blamed on the fishery—then the young are less numerous as compared to the undiminished numbers of adults until the latter have lived out their term of life. Decreased abundance of fish because of "over-fishing" of the older classes is, therefore marked by decreased numbers of the older fish as compared to the young, while the reverse is true in the case of a natural decrease because of the failure of the young to appear. The inference is obvious, a record of the relative numbers of adult and young must be kept in connection with a record of the total abundance, and from it can be ascertained just where the loss in abundance occurred, the degree to which the fishery is responsible being to a great extent obvious therefrom.

If the failure of a spawning season could be ascertained early enough, it would provide a knowledge of the impending change. The value of such knowledge may well be illustrated by the history of the herring in Europe. It is well known that from the dawn of history great natural fluctuations in its abundance have occurred, according to which a great industry has been built up or destroyed, carrying with it the fate of whole towns. Recent studies by scientists in the Norwegian fisheries service seem to show that it is possible to forecast the magnitude of

TABLE 1.

Table* Showing Percentage of Each Age in the Catch of Norwegian Fat-herrings in Various Years, Illustrating the Appearance of an Unusually Abundant Class as Successive Ages in the Catch of Successive Years.

Catch	Age when taken							
	1 year, per cent.	2 years, per cent.	3 years, per cent.	4 years, per cent.	5 years, per cent.	6 years, per cent.	7 years, per cent.	Total, per cent.
During 1907	11.5	37.8	51.3	0.4	.....	.....	.....	100.0
During 1908	0.4	51.4	10.3	37.8	.....	.....	.....	99.9
During 1909	3.1	81.0	13.3	0.6	16.9	0.7	0.2	100.2
During 1910	0.2	70.7	42.0	0.9	1.7	2.5	0.1	100.1

*NOTE—From Hjort and Ieu, "Some Results of the International Herring Investigations" 907-1911.

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the yield according to the sizes of fish taken. A great drop in the abundance of the herring was apparently preceded by the failure of the youngest classes to appear in adequate numbers,—in other words a predominance of mature existed at the same time as a decrease in catch. The success of the commercial fishery for herring during a number of years, in fact, seems to have depended on the success of a single year's spawning, the product of which became larger and older every year but which was not supplemented by young produced by subsequent spawnings. The result was the lack of small fish until another successful spawning could occur. The consequence of the gradual natural disappearance of the old fish in such a case, without another class of small to take their place, may be easily imagined. If fluctuations of such magnitude as occurred in the herring fishery could be foretold, the doing so would be a truly great accomplishment for the good of humanity.

Yet such a service would not be comparable to that of showing that a species as a whole is in danger, that man's operations are incurring a preventable catastrophe. Depletion from over-fishing is, obviously, very likely to be confused with natural decreases due to things other than over-fishing, or man's demand for food. The ability, then, to distinguish natural fluctuations due to the spawning seasons for instance, should enable us to recognize the results of over-fishing with greater clearness. This is without doubt the most important service to be rendered by a study of the fluctuations.

So we must observe the classes of various aged fish as early as possible, distinguishing them with the greatest possible exactness, in order that the nature of a change in abundance may be known, whether caused by natural fluctuations or by over-fishing. How far this is from realization in all of our species is a striking testimonial to the indifference of man.

To do these things we must know the ages of the fish taken. We must be able to contrast two-year-old fish with those six years old, to recognize the youngest fish, and to be able to tell in what year any individual or class of individuals was born. If we do not know the year of birth we can not trace back the failure of the spawning season to the occurrence of any particular phenomenon or group of phenomena. This means the discovery of the age of the fish, not merely of a particular class, but of the individual, a subject difficult in itself.

We may illustrate the most obvious method of finding the age by comparing the fish on a given bank to an orchard planted at different times. There will be some variation, but trees planted in a given year will approach the same height, and the heights for the successive years will be very different. So if all the trees planted in each year were grouped, we might have well-defined size groups, and anyone looking at them would say, here is the one-year group, here the second, and so forth. And so it is with the fish; they arrange themselves in natural groups, according to the age. But when they become very old, the growth both of the trees and of the fish slackens, so that the difference between those born in different years becomes less than the difference between individuals, and the age can not be told.

But this is a cumbrous method. It could be carried out once in each case, to corroborate other methods, and then abandoned, as has usually

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been done. A preferable method is to use the marks left on the hard parts of the fish, just as it is possible to use the rings left in the wood of the tree.

The reason for these marks is thought to exist in the nature of the growth of the fish. Its surroundings govern its growth, just as its temperature depends entirely on the temperature of the water. The seasons modify profoundly all the conditions of its surroundings, and with them the growth of the fish. During the winter months, growth and activity become much decreased, somewhat as those of a lizard or snake do. The tree grows by adding to its trunk a thin layer of woody tissue, and the part laid down during the colder months of the growing

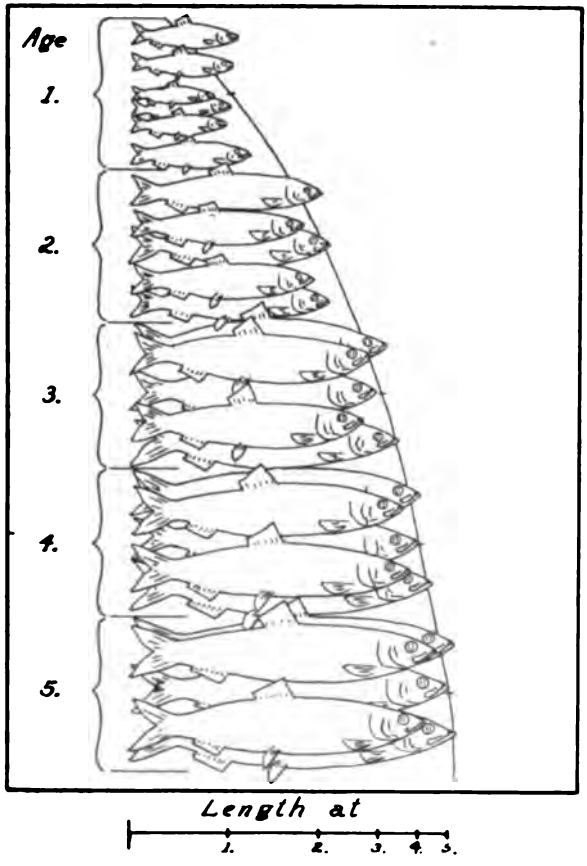

Fig. 19. Groups of fish of various ages, showing distinct difference in size between the early age groups, and the difficulty of distinguishing older ages by size alone. Average length of each group shown on line below, indicating the decreasing rate of growth with age.

season differs radically in structure from that laid down during the warmer. And so it is, presumably, with the fish and its hard parts, such as the scales, the otoliths or ear bones, and the bones of the body and head, although to be sure we can not attribute all the changes to the one condition, temperature, directly. The growth is by addition, leaving behind the old structure to tell the tale of the seasons that are past. Forest trees may tell of fires that have passed their way, of cold years, of warm years, of crowding by other trees, and of all the tragedies of the forest. So in a measure do the scales of the fish tell of birth, of years of plenty and of scarcity, sometimes of spawning, of injury, and

of migration, but through it all there is the tale of the seasons, the fundamental rhythm of existence among the lower animals.

We find that a scale is made up of many small rings, or circuli, but that at certain regions these are closer together, or that there is a mark or break in the continuity of the pattern on the scale. These parts which are thus marked are those in which the growth was affected, or even stopped. So there is a mark on the scale of the fish when it reached its first winter; and what was added during its second and its third summers, is clearly separated by other winter marks. We find that when we read the ages by these scales, the individuals in each of the size groups mentioned above and compared with trees in an orchard, are of the same age, and that the first size group has one annual ring, the second two and so forth, showing that the reading from the scales

Fig. 20. Scale of Frazer River sockeye salmon, Bellingham, Washington, June 18, 1917, from female, 23 inches long, in fifth year, showing approximated circuli marking the winter growth, the end of which is indicated by a line in each case. (After Gilbert, Rept. British Columbia Commissioner Fisheries, 1917.)

corresponds with the size groups and hence must be accurate. Such a comparison has not been carried out in all species, but in a sufficient number to place the facts on a firm basis.

The same is true of the otolith. It is a calcareous formation in the ear of the fish, which grows by successive concretions. The ear of the fish is not visible from the outside, but is nevertheless well developed, with semicircular canals much like those of men, and in one of the sac-like parts is deposited the otolith. The portions formed during the winters have much less organic matter in them than the layers formed during the summers, and hence are easily distinguishable.

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Thus we may know the age of the fish, and know when it spawns, how old it becomes before it dies, and we may know these things regarding each individual. This renders it possible to know in what year fish belonging to an abundant year class were spawned, and under what conditions they were born; therefore, why they were abundant. Without a knowledge of this kind, which would indicate when the results of particular phenomena might be expected to become evident, it is obvious that the careful study of such phenomena is meaningless from the standpoint of the fisheries. The age reading also renders it possible to accurately compare the numbers of fish of various ages, something we could not otherwise do, because if we relied on size groups we would confuse the ten-year-old fish with those nine and eleven years, or even eight and twelve years old. But aside from these more important things, there are, naturally, many things upon which a knowledge of the age throws light. Thus it is possible to prove that fish grow faster in one locality than in another. There is, indeed, much to be worked out,

Fig. 21. Otolith, or ear bone, of halibut, in tenth year, showing dark "winter" zones and white "summer" zones. (After Thompson, Seventh Annual Report, Commission of Conservation, Canada.)

and much to be proved in the case of the individual species, and even in regard to the general principles governing the different species.

In every species the light thrown by a knowledge of age, even when most brightly, is dependent for its importance on a knowledge of whether it is shown for the whole of a species or for merely a small part which may happen to be involved by the fishery. We must know whether the locality is representative, or whether it is isolated from the others. Perhaps we could catch all the fish in one locality and the numbers of fish in other localities would not diminish, there being therefore no danger to the species as a whole. Similarly, the value of protection to a limited area is subject to the same considerations. But, it may well be asked, how is it possible to discover this isolation, when we can not

see below the surface of the waters to watch the coming and going of the fish? It is difficult, but possible, as we shall see.

We know that when a village of men is isolated, and the inhabitants interbreed for a sufficiently long time, a dialect grows up, and ultimately certain physical characteristics seem to mark the inhabitants. The formation of the dialect is a rough measure of the degree of isolation of the group. So it is with a school of fish, or those inhabiting a certain region, their separation from others leads in time to the formation of small peculiarities of habits and structure. If the separation is simply lifelong, perhaps only those characters will be changed which have to do with the amount of food obtained, such as the length of the head and the rate of growth. But if isolation is complete, and has lasted for many thousands of years, there are deeper, more fundamental differences, of habit and structure. These are indications of the degree of isolation.

TABLE 2.

Table Showing Difference in Number of Vertebrae Between Herring From British Columbia and California.*

Locality	Specimens counted	Average of count
British Columbia—		
Point Grey	160	51.8
Pender Harbor	96	51.8
Pender Harbor	281	51.75
Kildonan	305	51.8
Nanaimo	206	51.8
California—		
San Francisco	81	50.7

*From Thompson, "A Contribution to the Life History of the Pacific Herring," Report British Columbia Commissioner of Fisheries, 1916.

Therefore, it has become a well-recognized method of research, to take samples of fish from different regions and to compare them carefully by minute measurements, such as the length of the head, the shape of the skull, and the number of fin rays. The results are sometimes astonishing, for well-recognizable groups may be made out in many species of fish. The implication is always that there is no migration between the groups, that each group has its home waters, to which it is confined, or that it has well-defined habits which keep the stocks separate.

Another method used is to place on the fish silver tags, piercing the fins or the body for the purpose, and then to release the marked individual alive, with the hope of retaking it, or of having a fisherman return it. By keeping a record of where and when the fish was released, it is possible to discover how far it has traveled and at what rate. The trouble, naturally enough, is that the fish, because of the irritation, may travel farther and faster than it ever would naturally, and may perhaps leave "home" when it would not under usual conditions.

Sometimes advantage is taken of the fact that fish from a certain locality may be characterized by marks left on the scales by some local condition. Then the dispersal of the marked group may be traced from

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year to year. An attempt has been made to use this method in the case of the herring, and also in the case of the sockeye salmon, where the scales are marked by the character of the growth during the first year or two. In the latter this has led to the identification of the birthplaces.

There are also other methods used of discovering the rate of movement, but none as valid. Thus when fish are abundant in one locality during one season, and abundant in another during the season following, migration is naturally supposed, by many people, to have occurred. In an extreme case of the use of this method, mackerel being abundant in Europe while they were not in American waters, many men drew the conclusion that the mackerel had migrated across the Atlantic. But there was no evidence to show that the disappearances and appearances were not simply the result of great fluctuations in the success of the spawning seasons. The dangers of such conclusions should be obvious, particularly when the imperfection of any known measure of the real abundance of the fish, such as the returns from particular methods of fishing commercially, is known. There were also at one time theories that the herring of European waters lived around the North Pole, and that they came down from the Arctic seas in great armies, the German *Heere*. These armies, or schools, were supposed to move around England and return to the far north. Now it has been proved that the herring of the Baltic, of the English Channel, of Iceland, and other localities, are of separate stocks which intermingle but slightly, if at all, and that they do not migrate in any such fashion. The method used to discover the truth was that which has just been mentioned of measuring the physical characteristics.

On the whole the tendency is to discredit migrations of great extent, but there are several marvelous migrations well known. Certainly the eel, which lives in fresh water, goes into mid-ocean to spawn. And just as certainly the salmon of the Pacific comes in out of the sea and passes up rivers thousands of miles long to spawn at the headwaters. But the quick assumption of long marine migrations, as that of the albacore into Mexican waters, is certainly to be deprecated. It is so easy to postulate complex migrations to explain varying appearances of fish in different localities in different seasons that to every species is ascribed such movements by the fishermen, with all the certainty in the world. But it is better, without doubt, to suspend judgment until actual facts from other sources are at hand to corroborate such theories.

It should be evident from what has been said that there is much to learn before over-fishing may be ascertained, or its extent judged. The problems to be met are large ones, yet not insuperable. The application of the acquired knowledge in order to prevent depletion is a considerable problem in itself. Over-fishing may always be stopped by restricting the fishery in any way, however crude and harmful the restriction may be, but the application of measures which will so distribute the restriction as to do the least harm to the fishery and the most good to the species is a different matter. Primarily, it is possible to restrain the fishery wherever it imposes its greatest drain on the supply, with a good chance of effectiveness; but that might not be the best available method. The most general principles underlying the subject are, as a matter of fact, unknown or undiscussed, despite the many legal measures passed by the legislatures.

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We may ask, for instance, why the spawning season should be so persistently an object of protection. The eggs are slowly developed throughout the year, indeed throughout the life of the individual, and the death of a female in January certainly destroys as many eggs as its death in June, if the spawning season comes in June. The matter would seem to be one of securing the survival of an adequate number of individuals throughout their normal lifetimes, so that there would be enough of them to produce eggs. But that implies care that too many young are not taken, just as it implies care that too many adults are not taken. In short, the value of the individual at the various times of its life must be known, so that it may be used when it is of the least value to the species and of the most value to the fisherman. We are still far from such a knowledge of biology as that implies.

The impression that it is sought to convey throughout this paper is that in order to conserve our fisheries, there are many problems to be solved, all of them important. Among them that of the adoption of statistical methods having for their object the ascertainment of the abundance, rather than the amount taken, easily comes first. But such a substitution can not be made without a knowledge of biology to supplement and guide it. And the biological phases of fishery science are in themselves many and important, dealing as they do with the rate of growth and the movements of the fish. Then finally, there is almost no adequate knowledge concerning the methods of conservation, or the prevention of depletion. We are at the threshold of a period of exploitation of our fisheries and we must be sure that we begin an era of scientific investigation of our fisheries in time to adequately guide and control the exploitation.

The dependence of the statistical method and biological study upon each other necessitates their prosecution by an agency capable of giving the investigation its needed scope. Adequate statistics can be gathered by a government only, and the same is true of the biological data required. The responsibility therefore rests upon the state, in whose hands lies the legislative control of the fisheries.

THE BASSES AND BASS-LIKE FISHES OF CALIFORNIA.

Families Serranidae, Haemulidae, and Kyphosidae.

By EDWIN C. STARKS, Stanford University, California.

The basses are the most fish-like fishes, so to speak, for they represent more than others the typical spiny rayed fishes. They have been usually selected as types of fishes for books of anatomy and textbooks since the time the great French zoologist, Cuvier, so used the yellow perch early in the last century.

All of the families of bass-like fishes group about the central family, Serranidæ. They and the mackerel-like fishes apparently were descended from a common ancestor. Also related to the basses are the croakers, though less closely than any of the fishes here included.

It is not at all desirable to here discuss the technical characters that define these fishes. It is sufficient to say that the first dorsal fin is made up of spines, the ventrals are placed but little behind the pectorals and joined to the shoulder girdle internally, the anal fin is usually with three spines, the ventrals with one spine and five soft rays, and the scales

rough with little spinules on their margins. This last may be appreciated by passing the finger over the scales in the direction of the head.

Representatives of this group occur everywhere in fresh and salt water, except in the Arctic regions. They are very numerous in the tropics and often very brilliantly colored. Among them are some of the largest of bony fishes as well as some of the smallest, ranging downward from the giant sea basses to the pigmy sun fishes and darters, some of which are fully grown at a length of between one and two inches.

KEY TO THE BASSES AND BASS-LIKE FISHES OF CALIFORNIA.

1. The vomer with teeth. A small portion of the upper edge only of the maxillary hidden by the bones just above it (preorbital bones) when the mouth is closed.
   2. Side of body with well-marked lengthwise stripes. *Striped bass. Roccus lineatus.* Page 62.
   2–2. Side of body without well-marked stripes.
      3. Spines of first dorsal shorter than rays of second. The two dorsals not much united. Size very large. *Black sea bass or Jewfish. Stereolepis gigas.* Page 62.
      3–3. Longest spines of first dorsal as long or longer than the rays of second. The dorsals broadly united. Size not excessively large.
         4. No small round spots on head or body. The third dorsal spine not over twice as long as the second and a little shorter than the fourth. The preorbital bone at its narrowest part scarcely over half as wide as the diameter of the eye. *Rock Bass or Sand Bass, Paralabrax clathratus.* Page 66.
         4–4 Numerous small round spots scattered over the head, or head and body. The third dorsal spine at least three times as long as the second, and longer than the fourth. Narrowest part of preorbital about as wide as eye.
            5. The small round spots confined to the side of the head, and usually some are on side of tail just in front of the caudal fin. *Johnny Verde or Kelp Bass, Paralabrax nebulifer.* Page 68.
            5–5. The small round spots scattered over the head and almost the entire body and fins. *Spotted Kelp Bass or Cabrilla, Paralabrax maculatofesciatus.* Page 67.

1–1. The vomer without teeth. A considerable part of maxillary slipping under bones just above it, when mouth is closed.
   6. Pectoral fin pointed and reaching past tips of ventrals.
      7. A dark band extending downward from middle of spinous dorsal. Base of pectoral black. Third anal spine shorter than second. *Sargo, Anisotremus davidsoni.* Page 63.
      7–7. No dark band downward across body, but several dark stripes running lengthwise on body. Third anal spine longer than second. *Big-Eyed Bass, Xenistius californiensis.* Page 64.
   6–6. Pectoral fin rounded and not reaching past tips of ventrals.
      8. No scales on gill cover behind preoperculum. Each tooth divided into three points. Dorsal and anal rounded in outline. *Greenfish or Opal Eye, Girella nigricans.* Page 65.
      8–8. Gill cover fully scaled. Teeth single pointed. Dorsal and anal rising to an angle in front, straight edged or slightly concave along tips of rays when fin is spread, and sharp pointed behind as tip of last ray. *Half-Moon Fish. Medialuna californiensis.* Page 66.

GLOSSARY.

Anal fin: The unpaired fin along the lower side of the body.

Caudal fin: The tail fin.

Dorsal fin: The fin along the back. Sometimes separated into a first and second dorsal, the first part, whether separated or not, composed of spines in these fishes.

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Fin rays: The softer elements that stiffen the fins. Differing from spines in not being sharp. They are usually branched like those that make up the second dorsal in these fishes.

Fin spines: Stiffer than rays, sharp at the tip and unbranched.

Head: The head is measured from the tip of the snout along its side to the edge of the gill cover.

Lateral line: A line of pore bearing scales along the side of the body. In these fishes it is more or less arched upward and follows the outline of the back.

Maxillary: The flattened bone just above the mouth and just above and behind the premaxillary.

Opercle: The gill cover just behind the preopercle.

Pectoral fins or *pectorals*: The fins just behind the gill openings, one on each side of the body.

Premaxillary: The bone bordering the upper jaw that bears the teeth.

Preopercle: The bone just behind the cheek that forms a ridge downward across the gill cover and turns at an angle forward.

Preorbital: The bone just in front and below the eye. It reaches downward to the maxillary and its surface is covered with thin membrane.

Snout: That part of the head in front of the eyes.

Ventral fins or *ventrals*: The pair of fins on the lower side of the body under the pectorals.

Vomer: A single unpaired bone that lies in the roof of the mouth directly behind the middle of the upper jaw. Do not mistake the palatines for it. They lie one at each side of the vomer parallel with the side of the jaw, and may or may not bear teeth.

FAMILY SERRANIDÆ.

The Striped Bass (Roccus lineatus).

This well-marked fish may be at once known by the dark horizontal stripes on the body, teeth on the vomer, a spine at the angle of the gill cover, and the pectoral fins not longer than the ventrals and not reaching

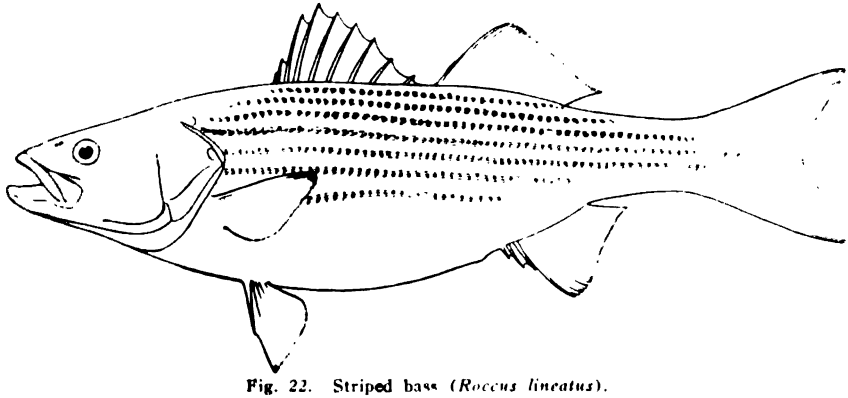

Fig. 22. Striped bass (*Roccus lineatus*).

so far back. There is another fish on our coast that has such stripes, but they are not so well marked and it lacks the above combination of characters. The eye is three or four times wider than the narrowest

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part of the preorbital just below it. The maxillary reaches to below the middle of the eye. The mouth is armed with rather fine sharp teeth. Scales extend on top of the head to in front of the eyes. The edge of the preopercle is divided into many small sharp spines. The dorsal fins are separate from each other and about equal in height. The second dorsal and anal have a sharp angle at the tips of the first rays. The middle caudal rays are shorter, making the outline of the fin concave.

The color is silvery with brassy and coppery reflections, and marked with seven or eight blackish stripes, one of which is along the lateral line.

The striped bass, though not a native member of our coast, is one of our important food fishes. It was introduced from the Atlantic coast and has become abundant. It is caught to the limit of safety to the species, and being a much advertised fish it commands a high price. Though it is without question a very fine food fish, it is rather overrated. This fish reaches a weight of 80 or 90 pounds, and one was once reported on the Atlantic coast that weighed 112 pounds.

The Black Sea Bass or Jewfish (Stereolepis gigas).

This gigantic fish may usually be known by its size. The body is broad and robust, and covered with rather small scales. The top of the head between the eyes is wide and not very convex. The eyes are small, several times shorter than the length of the snout or the space between them. In small ones the edge of the preopercle is divided into spines, but the edge becomes nearly entire in large ones. Fine teeth are in broad bands on the jaws. The dorsal fins are separate, and the first one is composed of short, stout spines that are shorter than the rays of the second dorsal. The pectorals are rather round in outline, and reach past the tips of the ventrals. It is very dark brown or nearly black in color.

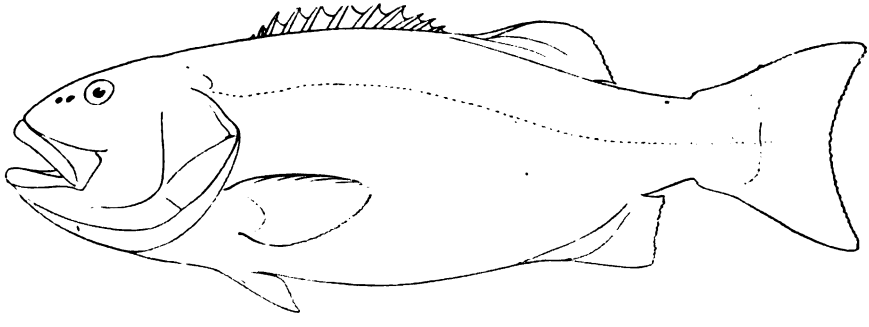

Fig. 23. Black sea bass or jew fish (*Stereolepsis gigas*).

This huge fish is rather abundant in southern California, and it is taken as far north as the Farallone Islands. It reaches a length of six feet, or sometimes even more, and a weight of 500 or 600 pounds. A considerable amount of its flesh, cut in large chunks and salted, finds a ready market. Its flesh, however, is not of the best, being rather coarse grained. Those of small or moderate size are said to be better than the large ones. It is a famous fish among the anglers of big game fishes, and monsters of nearly 500 pounds have been taken on tackle unbelievably light. Related to it is a huge jewfish of the south Pacific that is said to reach a length of 12 feet.

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The accompanying drawing is a composite reconstructed from several photographs, all of which show the fishes hung by the lower jaw and the head much distorted. The photographs show considerable variation in the depth of the body as compared with the length, and a marked variation in the relationship of the anal fin below the soft dorsal. In some the two fins end evenly behind. In others the anal projects much farther backwards.

Rock Bass or Sand Bass (Paralabrax clathratus).

As in the other members of this family the vomer is rough with small teeth, and the hind part of the upper edge of the maxillary is but little hidden under the preorbital bone just above it. The third dorsal spine is about twice as long as the second and scarcely as long as the fourth. The eye is twice as wide as the bony part of the preorbital space just below it. Small, fine spines are on the edge of the preopercle bone, and a flattened spine is just in front of the soft flap at the edge of the gill cover. It is steel-gray below with the upper part of the side mottled and barred with broad blotches of dark color with silvery gray between. The fins are all tinged with yellow. There are no small, round, dark spots on the head or body. Fig. 24.

Fig. 24. Rock bass or sand bass (*Paralabrax clathratus*).

This bass is an excellent food fish. It reaches a length of 19 or 20 inches and a weight of 5 pounds. It is found from San Francisco southward along the Lower California coast, and is most abundant below the Santa Barbara Channel. This and the other two species of *Paralabrax* are all known as rock bass, kelp bass, and cabrilla without distinguishing between them. I have more or less arbitrarily restricted the use of these names in the hope that the species may be more consistently distinguished from each other by common names.

Kelp Bass or Johnny Verde (Paralabrax nebulifer).

This bass may be known by the small, round, dark spots on the side of the head, particularly below and in front of the eye, and, usually, on the side of the tail just in front of the caudal fin. The teeth on the

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vomer and the relative covering of the maxillary by the preorbital is as in the rock bass. The third dorsal spine is considerably more than twice as long as the second and is longer than the fourth. The eye is as wide as the bony part of the preorbital space just below it. The spines on the edge of the preopercle and the flat spine on the gill cover do not differ much from those of the rock bass. The small scales on top of the head extend forward to opposite the front of the eyes. The ground color is solid greenish to under the middle of the second dorsal, behind which the color of the back and side is irregularly broken with short wavy lines. The under parts of the body are pure white. On the front of the body are some traces of irregular dusky bands extending down and back. The first dorsal has a large dusky spot in front, and the anal fin is a bright slate-blue. The cheek and region below the eye are covered with small round golden or yellowish-brown spots. Fig. 25.

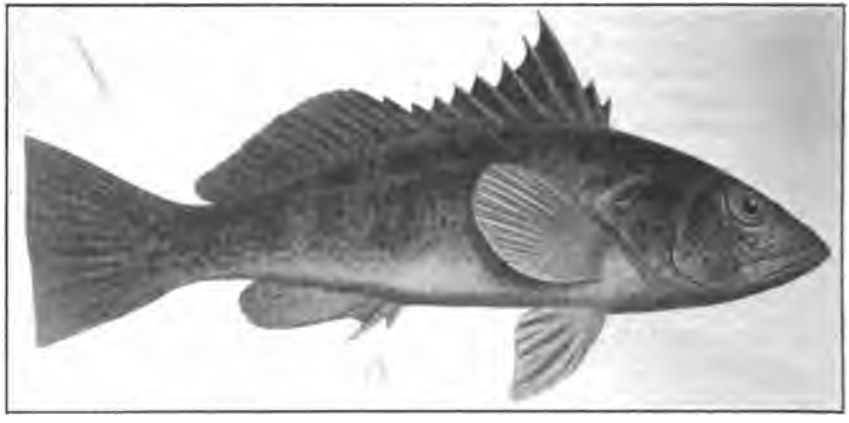

Fig. 25. Johnny Verde or kelp bass (*Paralabrax nebulifer*).

This bass is a very good food fish, differing little in this respect from the rock bass and spotted kelp-bass. It is rather abundant on the coast of southern California, and has been occasionally taken as far north as Monterey Bay, while southward it extends its range along Lower California. It reaches a length of about 18 inches.

Spotted Kelp Bass or Cabrilla (Paralabrax maculatofasciatus.)

The spotted bass may be at once known by the small spots that everywhere cover the head and body and extend over the second dorsal and caudal fins. In common with the other members of the family Serranidæ the vomer is rough with fine teeth and the maxillary is only slightly hidden by the bones above it. It resembles the kelp bass (*P. nebulifer*) and differs from the rock bass (*P. clathratus*) in having the third dorsal spine longer than the fourth, and the eye as wide as the preorbital space below it. It differs from the kelp bass in color, and in having the fine scales on top of the head not extending forward beyond the middle of the eyes. The color is greenish-brown covered over with small, round, dark brown spots very close together. These extend onto the soft dorsal, caudal and anal fins. On the side of the head the spots are smaller and tinged with golden color. Six or seven dusky bars extend down from the back across the body. On these the

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spots are darker and more or less run together. A dusky-bluish streak extends from the eye down and back across the cheek. Fig. 26.

This is one of the very few shore fishes found on our coast that extends its range southward as far as Mazatlan, Mexico. It has not been reported north of the Santa Barbara Channel. It reaches a length of 18 inches and as a food fish ranks with the other two basses of the genus *Paralabrax.*

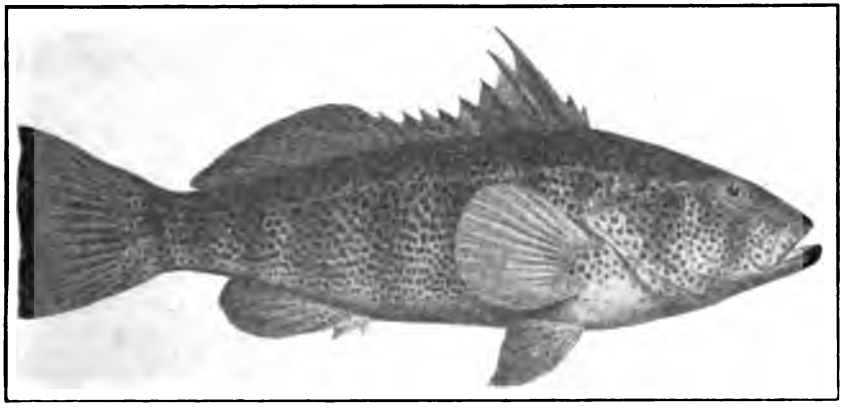

Fig. 26. Spotted kelp bass or cabrilla (*Paralabrax maculatofasciatus*).

FAMILY HÆMULIDÆ.

Sargo (Anisotremus davidsoni).

The sargo is a deep bodied fish that may be at once known by the dark band that extends down across the body, and the dark spot on and above the pectoral base. The mouth is small, slightly sloping from the horizontal, armed with fine teeth set in bands, and with thick, fleshy lips. When the mouth is closed the lower jaw scarcely projects beyond the upper. The maxillary, which is considerably covered by the bones above it, scarcely reaches back to under the front of the eye. The edge of the preopercle is armed with small spines. The base of the spinous dorsal is longer than the second dorsal. The dorsals are connected, and the longest spines are longer than the longest rays. The base of the anal is short, or scarcely equal to more than half the distance from the anal to the base of the ventral spine. The caudal is somewhat forked, or deeply concave behind. The pectoral is long and pointed, about as long as the head and reaching well past the tips of the ventrals. Color grayish-silvery, dark above with many dark points. A black cross-band extends down from the middle of the spinous dorsal across the side to a point on a level with the pectoral base. The base of the pectoral is black, with the black extending some distance upwards and touching the edge of the gill cover.

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This fish ranges from San Pedro southward along the Lower California coast. In the summer time it is reported to be not uncommon about San Diego and the Santa Barbara Islands. It reaches a length of somewhat over a foot.

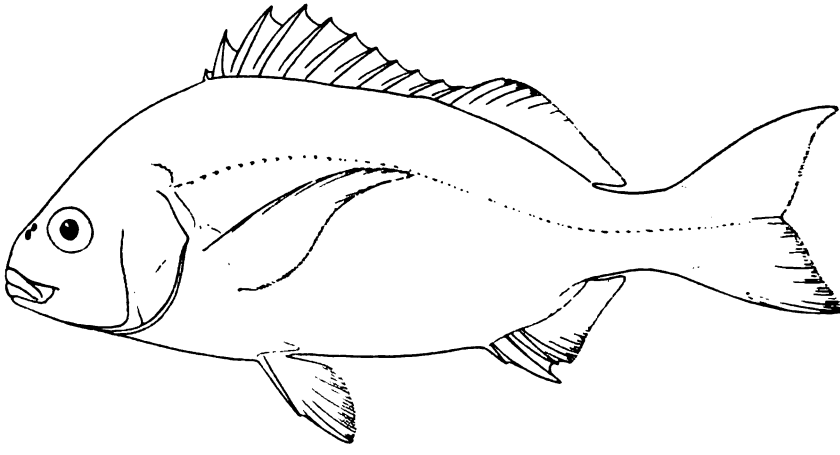

Fig. 27. Sargo (*Anisotremus davidsoni*).

Big-eyed Bass (Xenistius californiensis).

This is not a true bass, but belongs to the related family Hæmulidæ. It has no teeth on the vomer, and a considerable portion of the maxillary is covered by the bones just above it. It somewhat resembles the striped bass in the shape of the fins and in having stripes lengthwise of the body, but the stripes are not nearly so conspicuous. The eye is very large; its diameter greater than the space between the eyes on top of the head, and about equal to the distance from its front margin to the tip of the lower jaw when the mouth is closed. The mouth is moderate in size, very oblique, and with the lower jaw projecting beyond it in front. There is no flat spine pointing backwards at the hind angle of the gill cover. The maxillary reaches to opposite the front of the large

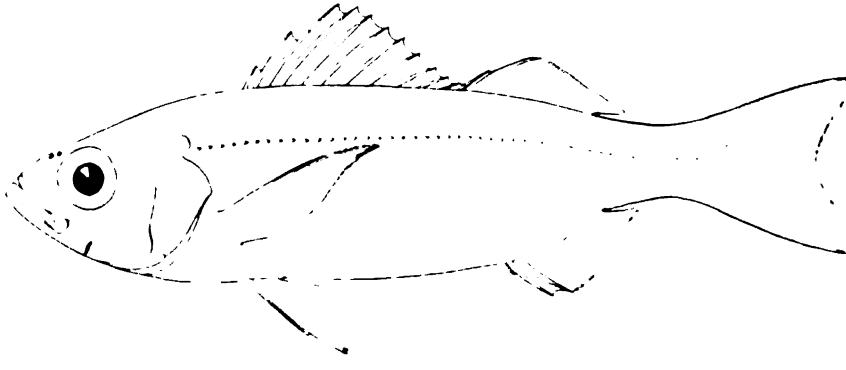

Fig. 28. Big-eyed bass (*Xenistius californiensis*).

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pupil. Fine spines are around the edge of the preopercle. The pectoral is pointed and extends farther back than the ventral fins. The first dorsal is rather triangular in shape, almost separated from the second dorsal, and is composed of rather stiff spines. The second dorsal resembles the anal fin. The scales feel very rough when the finger is passed over them in the direction of the head. The color is bright silvery, bluish above. Six or seven dark orange-brown stripes run lengthwise of the body.

The big-eyed bass reaches a length of about a foot, and is found from southern California southward along the Lower California coast. It is reported to be sometimes common about San Diego.

FAMILY KYPHOSIDÆ.

Greenfish or Opal Eye (Girella nigricans).

The greenfish has a bluntly rounded head and a moderately deep body. Small teeth are in bands on the jaws, attached to the membrane only and freely movable. Examination with a magnifier will show that each tooth is divided into three points. The maxillary is entirely hidden under the bones above it, leaving only the premaxillary in sight when the mouth is closed. The maxillary scarcely reaches to below the front

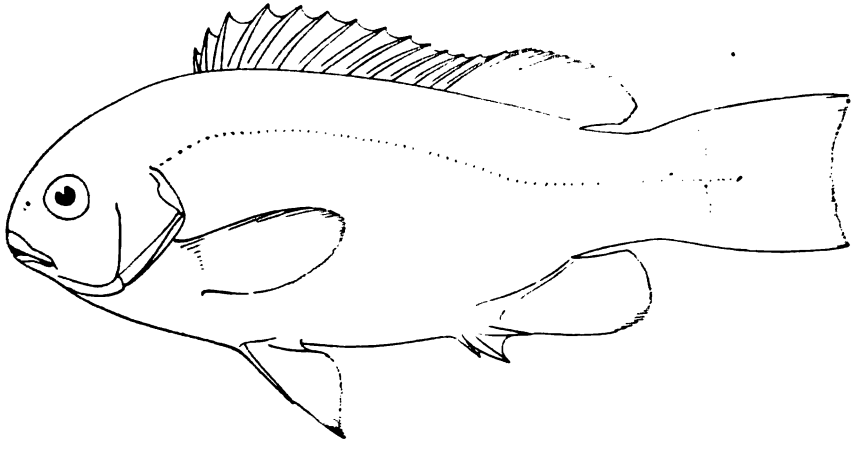

Fig. 29. Greenfish or opal eye (*Girella nigricans*).

of the eye. The edge of the preopercle is not divided into fine spines, and behind it the gill cover is devoid of scales. The spinous dorsal is much longer than the soft dorsal and broadly attached to it. The spines do not decrease much in length towards the last ones, and the longest ones are about as long as the longest rays. The rays of the anal fin are about as long as the base of that fin. The pectoral is short and rounded, nearly as long as the head, and scarcely reaching as far back as the tips of the ventrals. The caudal fin is slightly concave. The color is olive-green, paler on lower parts, the fins dusky greenish. Small ones have a yellowish spot on the back, and the fins have bright blue borders. The blue color quickly fades when the fish dies. The eye is a beautiful opal blue and green, hence the name, opal eye, that is sometimes applied to it. It is also called bluefish and blue-eyed perch.

The former name should be discouraged as it is not related to the famous bluefish, and the latter is doubly unfortunate, for it is neither a perch nor related to the fishes on our coast that we wrongly call perches. The name was doubtless given it from a fancied resemblance to the false perches, but aside from the shape of the body, it has nothing in common with them.

Though the greenfish is herbivorous, feeding very largely on sea weed, it will bite a hook baited with a bit of clam or abalone. It scarcely exceeds a foot in length, and when fresh is a food fish of very good quality, but its flesh is rather soft and does not keep well. It is found in abundance from San Francisco southward to the coast of Lower California. Small ones are very abundant in tide pools.

Half Moon (Medialuna californiensis).

The half moon is a compressed deep bodied fish that may be known from its relatives on our coast by the complete covering of fine scales that extends over the anal and second dorsal fins, and to a less extent over the caudal. The mouth is small, slightly oblique, and armed with fine even teeth set in broad bands. The maxillary scarcely reaches back to below the front of the eye. The lower jaw scarcely projects

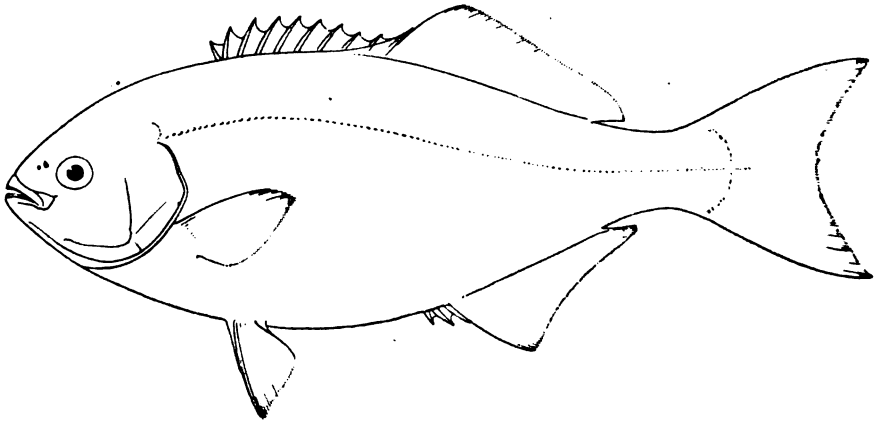

Fig. 30. Half moon (*Medialuna californiensis*).

beyond the upper when the mouth is closed. The edge of the preopercle is thin, membranous, and not divided into fine sharp points. The first dorsal is connected with the second and is very much lower, the longest spines being little longer than the diameter of the eye. The anal is shorter than the soft dorsal but resembles it in shape, being highest in front, where it rises to an angle and sharp pointed behind at the tip of the last ray. The caudal is evenly concave behind. The pectoral is rounded, much shorter than the head, and not reaching nearly so far back as the tips of the ventrals. The color is dark steely gray, lighter below, and more or less mottled, all of the fins are dark, and the dorsal and anal nearly black.

This fish is very beautiful in its lines and color. It is taken in considerable abundance about rocky places on the southern California coast, and is reported to be a very good pan fish. It reaches a length of about a foot.

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BEAR HUNTING WITH BOWS AND ARROWS.

By SAXTON POPE.

For some years back a number of us in San Francisco have been hunting with the bow and arrow, purely for sport. A powerful bow is an effective weapon, but it takes months of practice to be able to shoot it well. Such a bow pulls 75 pounds.

Having killed rabbits, quail, squirrels, bobcats, skunks, foxes, and deer, we naturally wanted to try our hand on a bear. We knew that a bear is a hard animal to kill even with a gun, but we also knew that the Indians killed him with a bow. So we wanted to find out just how much there was to the game. Our friends of course were very skeptical. They said that an arrow would hardly go through his hide.

Fig. 31. Black bear killed with bows and arrows by Arthur Young and Saxton Pope of San Francisco in Panthen Canyon, Humboldt County, California.

We got in communication with Thomas Murphy of Blocksburg, Humboldt County, who hunts bear as a business. He has been at this sort of thing for thirty years and never fails to get about a dozen bear every winter. So we packed up our strongest bows and several dozen broadhead arrows, and Arthur Young and I went up to Blocksburg.

Murphy was willing to let us shoot at a bear, but he insisted upon carrying a gun in case of accidents. He said he didn't want to lose a valuable dog over the affair.

After four unsuccessful hunts, we at last treed a good-sized bear up a tall fir. After securing the dogs, Mr. Young and I took our stand about thirty yards from the base of the tree, on the sidehill, and let drive two arrows at one time. Both shafts struck the bear in the chest, going completely through, feathers and all.

Quick as a flash the bear wheeled about and began descending the tree. We ran up close and shot him again as he neared the ground, and bounded down the hill. Murphy turned the dogs loose, and they all went crashing through the brush together.

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Pretty soon we heard them bay him again, and we rushed a quarter of a mile down the canyon to find him sitting on the limb of another fir, holding on like a man. We shot again and he dropped to the ground, where the dogs heeled him and went flying past hanging on to a hind leg. The bear immediately mounted a nearby oak, not over eight inches in diameter, and swung out on a limb. At close range, we shot arrow after arrow through his chest while he slipped further out on the bending limb, and at last fell to the ground, rolling over and over down the canyon. The dogs were on him in a second, and by the time we reached the creek bed, the bear was dead.

Murphy performed the autopsy, giving the hounds the liver and lights. Eleven arrows had gone through the beast, seven of these through the chest. The lungs were collapsed and pulmonary hemorrhage finished him. The first two shots would have been enough if we had waited.

It was a three year old female black bear, weighing about 150 pounds. That it was no larger was no fault of ours. The arrows cut ribs in two at several points and undoubtedly could have penetrated any beast with a hide less resistant than a hippo or an elephant.

NOTES ON THE ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF THE SPINY LOBSTER.

By P. S. BARNHART, Scripps Institution for Biological Research.

Because of its possible bearing on the future artificial propagation of the spiny lobster, *Panulirus interruptus*, I think it might be worth while to make a record of the conditions under which eggs were hatched and the young carried through the phyllosome stage of development.

It has always been easy to secure berried lobsters and obtain from them the first stage of the young. These have always died before passing through further stages of development, even though kept in fresh running sea water, supposedly under ideal conditions.

B. M. Allen working under the auspices of the California Fish and Game Commission in 1911, constructed elaborate hatching boxes at the inlet to False Bay, where a plentiful supply of fresh water was constantly available and the water in the boxes kept in constant agitation by means of a rotating wheel. In his published notes (1916) he says:

"There is no difficulty in securing the young. It is only necessary to impound spawn-bearing females. The young hatch very readily even after the spawn-bearing parent has been kept in captivity for weeks. Attempts to rear them, however, proved futile. Their extreme delicacy and pelagic habit make their culture an especially difficult problem."

On May 14, 1918, a berried lobster was placed in a large concrete tank, 6 by 9 feet, in the research aquarium of the Scripps Institution. This tank contained approximately 800 gallons of water. A small jet furnished about 5 gallons of water an hour. The 20th of June two green turtles weighing about 30 pounds each were placed in the same tank. Every few days after this quantities of a green alga was thrown in for the turtles to feed upon. Much of this rotted and accumulated in

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one corner of the tank under and around a lot of large stones where the lobster kept itself hidden.

The in- and outflow from the tank was not enough to keep the water perfectely fresh and it began to take on the milkly hue indicative of bad water. This finally became so bad that I decided to clean the tank out. On the 10th of July I started to do this, but where the sun struck the water I noticed that there was a slight movement on the surface as of many small animals moving about. I immediately made a haul with a fine net and was much surprised to find quantities of phyllosomes. Many of these were put into fresh running water where they remained alive for several days, but gradually died off. Those remaining in the large tank kept alive about eight days when they also died. As far as I was able to observe these were in the small, first phyllosome stage.

This experiment might indicate that, while bearing and hatching the eggs, the adult seeks comparatively quiet water where there is much decaying vegetation. It surely proves that fresh clean water is not necessary for their hatching and development to the phyllosome stage. Allen found that spawn-bearing females usually "seek sheltered spots in the lea of islands or points of land and take refuge in sheltered crevices of rocks alongshore."

I hope to repeat this experiment this year on a much larger scale.

IS THE HERRING GULL INSECTIVOROUS?

By A. C. BURRILL, Idaho Station Entomologist's Office.

Some individuals doubt that gulls naturally eat insects. They consider that the blowflies reported eaten by gulls (Dr. Dutcher, President of National Association of Audubon Societies), were merely gulped down when some gull seized a beached fish on which the flies might have been ovipositing. This seems probable and also that some other insects eaten, as the white grub's adults, the May beetle, may have been washed up on shore alongside fish and so included with the bigger mouthful, even if the young gulls were being fed by their mothers at the time. (By the Wayside, Feb., 1912, p. 42.)

In The Auk (v. 19, p. 46), Doctor Dutcher saw at the No-Man's-Land Gull Reservation, Maine, young gulls which, as soon as able to leave the rookery, went in flocks to neighboring grass and potato fields and ate immense numbers of grasshoppers and potato beetles. This doesn't look like mere beach scavenging, does it? Yet I agree that many insects can be easily swallowed unintentionally by scavenging gulls. In the summer of 1910, I related in a recent note how the gulls cleaned up the fish driven ashore on Lake Michigan, Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin. At that time there were thousands of beetles, largely ladybirds (Coccinellids) of many kinds, along the beach, besides various other unfortunates, so that a gull would have great difficulty in cleaning a fish body of all of the smaller fry before swallowing.

Owing to the lack of material, former Chief Henshaw says, our Federal Biological Survey has made very few stomach analyses of this species. But just lately Dr. A. S. Alexander called to my attention a Scottish work (Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland) in which in 1912 is given the analysis of 616 Scottish bird

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stomachs, including 44 herring gulls (the same as ours, *Larus argentatus* Gmel.). This seems to accord so well with the little known here that I venture to quote in the words of the author, Miss Laura Florence, Carnegie Scholar in the University of Aberdeen, published at Edinburgh: "*Summary*: 15 contained fish; 3, carrion; 13, shells; 4, refuse; 1, brittle star; 4, crustacea; 3, insects of injurious group; 2, insects of indifferent group; 3, earthworms; 3, potatoes; 9, grain; 14, grass; 9, seeds." Again, she lists the food for a single male shot at Donmouth in Aberdeen, Oct. 31, 1910: "Stomach about quarter full; fragments and husks of grain; fragments of chitin; forceps of an earwig (Forficuliadæ); grass." The chitin mentioned may have been other parts of the same earwig or some other insect. This work was supervised by the well-known zoologists, Professors J. Arthur Thompson and J. W. H. Trail.

Fig. 32. Herring gulls on breeding grounds, No Man's Land, North Carolina. Photograph by Herbert A. Job.

Thirty per cent of these gulls, therefore, ate fish, but the amount of fish material must have been much less than that. Compare Mr. Henshaw's statement regarding American gulls: "The herring gull can be considered a fish eater only to a very limited extent. Occasionally, we have found the remains of fish in the stomach contents, but there has always been collateral evidence that the fish were eaten in the shape of offal. When about harbors and inland waters, its principal food consists of garbage. We have a number of stomachs collected in Maine by Dutcher, and these contain the remains of June bugs and other insects with about 10 per cent of fish garbage, showing that the herring gull is in some localities and to some extent, at least, insectivorous."

In Leslie's Weekly, for Sept. 5, 1912, there is a view of the American battleship "Utah," near Galveston, Texas, surrounded by sea gulls

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picking up refuse. In an earlier issue, February, 1909, is another of gulls picking up fish from a school of herring on the high sea. This is more often true of the kittiwake gull or of the stormy petrel, alias "Mother Carey's Chicken," well shown in Collier's Weekly for Sept. 6, 1913 (p. 15), though Mabel Osgood Wright says the name herring gull was given this bird "because as they were originally fishermen by trade, their presence flying above the water told where schools of herring were to be found. Today the schools of herring are less plentiful along our shores, and the value of this gull, though greater than ever, is due to a different source." Now gulls act as scavengers, becoming "the health officers of the coast" (November, 1907, The Herring or Harbor Gull, Educ. Leaflet No. 29. The Nat. Ass. Aud. Soc., N. Y. City).

Mr. Brann (By the Wayside, January, 1912), claims gulls still dive for fish occasionally in Green Bay, Wisconsin, but Mr. Henshaw rather disputes this for the United States as a whole, and so writes friend W. T. Davis, a careful observer and naturalist of Staten Island, New York Harbor (letter, Dec. 31, 1912). One of the best refutations of much fish being eaten by gulls came out in the Pall Mall Gazette (Feb. 6, 1912), Mr. F. G. Aflalo saying:

Fig. 33. Sea gulls flying over headlands, La Valle, California. Photograph by L. Hugo.

"The public mind is constantly being misled on this subject of the destructiveness of gulls by journalists with a passion for statistics. Only the other day a morning paper published what purported to be the pictorial menu of a sea gull during the year. It was shown in terms of a great line of barrels of herrings, 146 barrels, each containing 500 herrings, to a total not far short of 200 pounds sterling. There were two very obvious fallacies in this reckoning. In the first place it assumed that the whole of the 73,000 herrings thus consumed as fry, would have grown to maturity if the gull had left them alone. To put it mildly, this is by no means proved; to put it frankly, it is rubbish.

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Moreover, this imposing cartoon gave no hint of the tons of offal and garbage which, to the great benefit of many a harbor, these feathered scavengers consume every year. The picture told, in fact, what was not true, and suppressed what was."

Mr. C. W. Creel, in charge of the cereal and forage insect investigations laboratory of the United States Bureau of Entomology, at Forest Grove, Oregon, informs that often, when the farmers are plowing in the Salt Lake Valley, Utah, gulls come in large flocks to work over the land, whether after insects or field rodents would be a very interesting line of investigation. Likewise we have a photograph of many gulls visiting plowed land in California, and suppose that this is the California gull. However, it will be interesting to hear from other observers, if the herring gull, which is less common there than in other parts of America and Europe, still shows sufficient interest in plowed fields in California to associate with the California gulls in their field patrols.

One species of gull flies up the Columbia River and has been reported in spring as far up the Snake River Canyon as Lewiston, Idaho, per Adjutant General Charles Moody, showing that even inland Idaho, though lacking large lakes, may be within the flying zone of this valuable species. In the Big Bend country of eastern Washington, some of the farmers who were worried by the large armies of coulee crickets in the spring of 1918, were discussing if there would be any advantage in shipping a few pairs of gulls to the desert country to eat up these crickets and thus attract more gulls to fly in from the coast, and thus repeat the well-known tale of the Mormons and the Mormon crickets of Utah, and the deliverance effected by the gulls. Further data is invited.

Messrs. B. G. Thompson and M. M. Reeher, special field agents of Mr. Creel's office, have furnished the following details. Mr. Thompson was sent into the grasshopper afflicted district near Burns, Harney County, Oregon, May, 1918, where he met a Mr. McGee who said that for several years gulls had been working on grasshoppers. Messrs. Thompson and McGee went out to look for a new band of hoppers in May and after a long hunt saw at a distance about a thousand gulls feeding on the land. Mr. McGee felt sure that they would find the hoppers near there, and on going over to see, found the gulls so gorged that they would hardly get out of the way. The gulls were busily picking up the young hoppers. Mr. Reeher was sent into Langells' Valley, near Klamath Falls, Oregon, early in June, 1918. His guide told him that a few gulls visited the hoppers the year before, and showed him this June, 1918, about five hundred gulls feeding on hoppers. We have no data as to what species of gull this was, save that it was white with bluish slate-colored wings, which answers to at least three species. As the California and ring-billed gulls breed in colonies on Klamath Lake, it seems reasonable to believe that birds of these two species were implicated.

These facts are given to show that gulls may be quite as well worth study in the West as in the East, and their protection quite as necessary.

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FRANK A. SHEBLEY.

The death of Frank A. Shebley, one of the oldest employees of the Fish and Game Commission, which occurred in a hospital in Yreka, December 21, 1918, came as a profound shock to scores of friends. Although he had been unconscious for seven hours after the accident to the auto bus in which he was riding between Fort Jones and Yreka, several days before, on Saturday morning there was every indication that he would get well, but a sudden change which occurred late in the afternoon ended in death.

Frank Shebley was born in Nevada county nearly forty-seven years ago. He was the son of California's first famous fish culturist, and had succeeded before his death, in company with his brother, William H. Shebley, in making a reputation as great if not greater in the same line of endeavor than that of the father, who had gone before. As a boy, he followed farming on his father's place, but for the past twenty-five years has been identified exclusively with fish culture in connection with the California Fish and Game Commission, and there are few men on the Pacific slope who knew as much about fish and fishing in the waters of the rivers and bays as Frank Shebley knew. During his experience with the Commission he was the superintendent of the Price Creek hatchery in Humboldt county, and the Brookdale hatchery in Santa Cruz county, and recently the new Mount Whitney hatchery in Inyo county. Under his management the Brookdale hatchery became very popular and was sought out by sportsmen from all over California as a place of great interest. Also interested in angling as a sport, he was a master of the fly rod and a skilled angler. In recent years he had given some attention to land investments, as well as mining ventures, and with W. P. Netherton of Santa Cruz was the owner of considerable property in Texas.

Few employees of the Fish and Game Commission have been so universally loved as has Frank Shebley. His genial personality and perpetual good humor won for him hosts of friends. His loss will, therefore, be a personal one to many. Mr. Shebley's fish cultural attainments furnish assurance that the vacancy left by his death will be hard to fill.

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

April 21, 1919.

"Conservation deals with those things to which practically every normal person turns for relaxation in his moments of leisure."

OUR MAILING LIST.

The mailing list for CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME has been entirely revised. Those who did not take the trouble to sign the card enclosed in the October number have been removed from the list and a new written request alone will replace them.

There have been so many additions to our mailing list of late that the edition published has had to be increased. This, in connection with a marked increase in cost of printing, leads us to speculate as to the possibility of continuing free distribution. It may well be that some small charge will have to be made for the magazine in the future. If this change becomes necessary, we will but be following the lead of several other states. A regular subscription list would allow a great saving in postage in that the magazine could then be mailed as second-class matter.

PENDING LEGISLATION.

Less important fish and game legislation has come before the present legislature than for many years past. The bills that have been introduced are less radical in nature and notably less in number. The few relating to game which stand out as desirable are: A bill granting discretionary powers to the Fish and Game Commission which would allow better administration of fish and game resources; bills making the state laws conform with the new federal regulations; and one remodeling the districting act to include two new game refuges, an area in the vicinity of Mt. Breckenridge, Kern County, and an area on Mt. Hamilton, Santa Clara County.

Desirable changes in the law requiring fishways are provided for in two bills, and it is hoped that another bill prohibiting fishing within two hundred and fifty feet of any fishway or screen will be passed. An important bill provides for the inspection of all imported fish eggs or fish so that undesirables may be quarantined.

Among undesirable bills relating to game are those which provide bounties on predatory birds and on predatory mammals, one opening the bear season in districts 2, 2A and 10, one opening the season on rabbits in the above districts, one providing for the repeal of the hunting license law, and one providing for the sale of ducks killed when destroying rice. A bill to permit the use of a spear in taking trout in certain local districts and a pernicious shrimp bill are among those relating to fish which would tear down present protective laws.

It seems reasonable to believe that our legislators will look with disapproval on those bills which are adverse to the best interests of our fish and game, and will stand by those tending to uphold protection and conservation for our wild life resources.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION INAUGURATES EDUCATIONAL WORK AT SUMMER RESORTS.

Believing that a better knowledge of wild life will bring about better conservation of it, and that when people are on their summer vacations they are most responsive to education on wild life resources, the California Fish and Game Commission, backed by the Nature Study League, will institute this coming summer a series of lectures and nature study field trips designed to stimulate interest in the proper conservation of natural resources. The Tahoe region has been selected for the work this year. The work will be offered at six different resorts. The month of July is the time set. All lectures and classes will be open

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to the public and no fees will be charged. Illustrated lectures on the game birds, song birds, mammals and fish will furnish evening entertainment, and early morning trips afield will give vacationists an introduction to mountain wild life.

Everyone wants to recognize the plants and wild things encountered on the summer vacation. There is no better way of developing this ability than to accompany one who knows the trees, birds and mammals. Special attention will be given the identification of birds by call, song, color and habits. The motto of these classes will be: "Learn to read a roadside as one reads a book." Knowledge of wild life insures better conservation of it. Special excursions for children will be conducted.

These nature study lectures and field trips which compose the vacation camp work of the Bureau of Education, Publicity, and Research of the California Fish and Game Commission are designed to bring about a healthy interest in the out-of-doors and in wild things that through knowledge proper public sentiment and proper conservation of our natural resources may be brought about. In other words, "conservation through education" is the end being sought.

PRESERVE GAME RESOURCES.

California's natural resources in fish and game, with its incomparable climate, its 26,212 miles of fishing streams, its 862,000 acres of lakes and every stage of climatic conditions to be found out of doors, are a gigantic magnet drawing people from remote corners of the earth. California should be the mecca for the human race. The remarkable development of road building of the past few years, with the development of the automobile, have brought the people in touch with this wonderful fish and game asset.

To hunt and fish is as natural to the California boy and girl as to breathe. The farmer and land owner is practically the breeder and raiser of our game and he is ever zealous in its protection. His children hunt and fish whenever the season and opportunity offer. Not a family exists in our rural districts that does not own, as a family heirloom, a shotgun or a rifle, and both sexes of the children are taught their use. They can teach many an expert the fine art of angling in the stream that flows by his home.

There in the rural districts you will find the nucleus of the strong, virile generation that Northern Europe knows so well and that will come after us, for they live much in the open, where they learn self-reliance. Let us not remove from them the natural opportunity to improve their physical being, but rather assist them by conserving our natural resources in fish and game.

Continued changing and revising the fish and game laws will do more toward decimating our fish and game than all the hunters and fishermen can possibly do. The State Fish and Game Commission is a state body directing and supervising the entire work of fish and game protection, propagation, distribution and conservation. Thus the state is administered as a unit and a maximum degree of protection can be given. This could not become an actual possibility were each of the fifty-eight counties given full and complete control within their respective borders. With fifty-eight separate and distinct districts, ranging from a mere handful of population to half a million, each endeavoring to handle the affairs of each for themselves and not one for the other, one can easily imagine the chaotic state of affairs that would result. Thus one can realize why experimental legislation would be and is more detrimental to the unsurpassed fish and game interests of California than all her hunters and fishermen, alien and domestic.— Editorial, Sacramento *Union*, Feb. 16, 1919.

LARGE PROFITS WITH SLIGHT OUTLAY.

Few, if any, natural resources of a state are administered with so slight a cost to taxpayers as is fish and game. Wild birds, mammals and fish yield a splendid annual return in food and sport, to say nothing of their help in controlling pests, and this wild life does not need food or shelter, but simply reasonable protection. Not one dollar is appropriated by the state for its maintenance. The small burden falls entirely upon those who make most use of the resource. The hunters and anglers of this state by paying a small license fee of $1.00 furnish

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the funds used to enforce fish and game laws and initiate protective measures. Many persons are ignorant of these facts and these are the ones that continually complain of the high cost of fish and game administration.

"NOW BEGINS THE SEASON."

"Now begins the season of the year when the weary city man turns his face from the familiar crowds and noises of the city to the country places: where he may fish in the trout streams; plod over the hills with a gun on his shoulder in the hope of shooting something; dabble in the ocean waves at the beaches; or sleep all night on the hard ground, with queer noises going on in the woods around him, curious little insects walking over his body and tickling him, curious little animals tiptoeing around among the leaves, and unknown dangers, remembered from his primitive days, waiting to catch him and gobble him up."—San Francisco *Bulletin*, June 30, 1914.

It is good for a man to wander back at intervals into the domain of old Dame Nature. What good does it do? It means quickened pulse, hearty appetite, an inexpressible tingle of exhilaration in every nerve, better poise, greater resiliency of step, augmented power of body and mind for the battles of the workaday world.

What element is more important in making insistent the call to marsh, field, and mountain than that furnished by the wild life? Exterminate the game and you make the world drearier, more monotonous, less interesting. Exterminate California's game and you turn one of the most attractive of the sisterhood of states into a desolate waste. —*Western Wild Life Call*, No. 4.

CONVICTION MADE UNDER FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT.

Los Banos and other San Joaquin points have heretofore supplied most of the ducks for the market. Changed conditions have moved the activities of market hunters to Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties. The city of Colusa, being in the center of operations, became the rendezvous of most of the market hunters. The fact that the Migratory Bird Treaty Act prohibits the sale of all waterfowl made no difference to these men who shoot for money.

The difficulty of detecting sale transactions is evidenced by the following facts: One of the most notorious hunters maintained a joint in Colusa where ducks were dispensed after the password had been given. So notorious had the place become for the distribution of ducks that traveling men had no difficulty in purchasing them at any time. It was the custom of these men to keep a supply of ducks on hand in order that they might guarantee the limit to so-called city "sportsmen" whom these hunters took out at so much per day. The surplus ducks were shipped to San Francisco and Sacramento under fictitious names to be distributed by agents.

The proprietor of this joint, with three other well-known market hunters, was detected on October 15, 1918, the day previous to the opening of the season, with 226 ducks and one snipe in his possession. Information was filed against these four defendants, Charles Guernsey, J. T. Maley, Frank Chambers, and Joe P. Meyers. They were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury and were tried by jury on February 4, 1919, at Sacramento, Judge Van Fleet presiding. The jury returned a verdict of guilty in eleven minutes, and the defendants were sentenced to pay $100 each or in default serve 60 days in jail.

Much credit is due state and federal wardens Carpenter and Ludlum, Deputy United States Game Warden E. S. Cattron and Assistant United States Attorney Johnson for the manner in which the case was handled. As this was the first case in California under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Judge Van Fleet did not impose a maximum fine, but warned all future offenders to beware.

GEO. NEALE.

MENDOCINO RANCHER MAKES GOOD KILL.

Mr. Frank Williams, a sheep rancher of Calpella, Mendocino County, recently succeeded in killing a black bear which had been killing sheep in the vicinity for several years. It weighed 300 pounds. A mountain lion was killed the same day. (See Fig. 32.) During the winter of 1913 seven lions were killed in this vicinity.

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Fig. 34. Mountain lion and large black bear which had pestered sheep-men for years at last rounded up in one day by Frank Williams, a rancher of Calpella, California. Photograph by Una Boyle.

GAME LAWS TO BE ENFORCED IN NATIONAL FORESTS.

Persons who violate the state game law on national forests now become liable to prosecution in the federal courts. A regulation recently issued by the Secretary of Agriculture is as follows:

"The going or being upon any land of the United States, or in or on the waters thereof, within a National Forest, with intent to hunt, catch, trap, wilfully disturb or kill any kind of game animal, game or non-game bird, or fish, or to take the eggs of any such bird, in violation of the laws of the state in which such land or waters are situated, is hereby prohibited."

BEAVER HIDES CONFISCATED.

Deputies Newsome and Sellmer, while on patrol work along the Tuolumne River, discovered 14 green beaver hides in the camp of a trapper. The trapper, fearing the hand of the law, had fled. If the attempts being made to locate the trapper are successful, prosecution will follow.

DEPUTY ACQUITTED AT TRIAL.

Deputy Carpenter of Maxwell, Colusa County, was recently made defendant in a suit to compel payment for seventy-three ducks which he seized from three Colusa market hunters. The commission's attorney, R. D. Duke, handled the case in a masterly way when it came to trial by jury at Colusa on February 11. Attorney Duke contended that the justice had no jurisdiction in the case and that it should be tried by a federal court, but he was overruled by Justice of the Peace, Moore. Nevertheless, the outcome was a verdict in Deputy Carpenter's favor. This vindication of the game laws by a jury in Colusa augurs well for the future.

WAR-TIME SAVING IN COST OF FISH FOOD.

The furnishing of proper food to the millions of fish reared in our hatcheries is no small problem. Until the cost made it prohibitive, beef liver was largely

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used in the preparation of fish food. With the increase of cost wholesale in San Francisco from 5 cents to 12 cents per pound, it became necessary to seek a substitute. This was found in refuse fish costing but 4 cents per pound. A product of a fish reduction plant known as cracklings has been found usable, but hardly as satisfactory as beef liver.

THE PACIFIC COAST WHALE INDUSTRY.

It is reported that in 1918 the principal whaling company on the Pacific Coast, with stations in Washington, British Columbia and Alaska, took 999 whales, of which about 200 were of the set species (*Balaenoptera borealis*), whose meat is light colored and particularly good for canning. One right whale was captured; it yielded 1,600 pounds of excellent baleen. Four samples of this baleen, 8 to 9 feet in length, have been sent to the bureau for exhibition purposes. The short baleen of the common shore whales, which in recent years has been thrown away, now has a fair market value, and large quantities of the discarded material are being profitably salvaged.—*Fisheries Service Bulletin*, No. 45.

FOOD ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS ON FISHING NO LONGER EFFECTIVE.

All of the rulings of the Federal Food Administrator regarding the commercial fisheries of the state, with the exception of that relating to the packing of sardines, were revoked on December 31, 1918. The laws of this state are now in full force and effect as they were previous to the rulings of the Food Administrator.

MORE BIRD TREATIES NEEDED.

Conservationists having successfully provided for the protection of migratory wild fowl which breed to the north of the United States are now demanding a similar protection for the waterfowl and insectivorous birds which summer in the United States, but spend the winter season in Latin America, where they are wantonly slaughtered. As a sample of the type of destruction which goes on in Mexico, we quote from a letter written by H. S. Battie of Hollywood, California:

"Regarding the market shooting, I refer solely to ducks; except the egret, no other feathered game is shot for the market.

"As you may not have heard of the methods of shooting ducks for market, I will explain it.

"In the table lands of Central Mexico nearly all the large haciendas have ponds or lakes to catch water during the rainy season which is later used for irrigation. During the winter the ducks congregate in immense numbers on such places.

"At a convenient place on the bank a frame of heavy timbers is laid, and to these are fastened batteries of guns—anything that will shoot, in some cases iron pipe being used. They sometimes have three tiers, fan-shaped, one above the other, and perhaps a hundred or more guns, the first aimed at the water, the second slightly above, and the third slightly higher still. These are fired by trains of powder.

"On the day selected the peons go in boats, and also wading, gradually driving all the ducks on the lake into a compact mass in front of the battery. At a signal the boats back away and the peons duck under. The first tier is fired as the birds are sitting and the other two a fraction of a second later as the birds are taking wing. The slaughter is dreadful. I would not care to say just the number, but an American friend who happened to be at an hacienda at the time, told me they got two thousand that day. I had no reason to think he exaggerated."

While interest is still strong regarding the protection for migratory and insectivorous birds effort should be made to give the summer visitant class of birds equal protection with the winter visitants. Not only will the carrying out of such a program of protection be a benefit to the citizens of today, but will be a benefaction to the coming generations.

CONSERVATION OF FISH.

Former visitors to Santa Catalina Island, who remember seeing tons of albacore, tuna, and black sea bass spoil on the pier and then towed out to sea, will be interested in reading the report of the Avalon Fish Exchange. All fish caught by anglers and not utilized by them becomes the property of the Fish Exchange. This supply is augmented by market fishermen. Last season 165,000 pounds of edible fish were shipped to the mainland. This was in addition to the large amount sold on the island. Included in the shipments to the mainland were 92 giant bass, fish which formerly went to waste, but which now are in great demand. Anglers trolling in Catalina waters used

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15,000 flying fish as bait. Valuable data as to the time of year when the different varieties of fish are in abundance is being accumulated by the exchange.

DEPENDABLE INFORMATION IS NEEDED.

Honorable George D. Pratt, Conservation Commissioner of the state of New York, has recently called attention to the need for precise and dependable information about wild life resources. He points out that the underlying cause for the multiplicity of laws relating to game offered at each session of the different state legislatures is inadequate information regarding game conditions. In attempting to fill this need, Mr. Pratt instituted in 1915 a game census designed to furnish a running check upon the condition of the state's wild life. By leaving out of consideration unprovable assertions or estimates based upon guesswork or the unreliable method of averaging, the census gives definite knowledge regarding general abundance of different species in different sections and the fluctuations in their condition from season to season. Each of the 140 field men have been required to report upon cards every week all of the game that they have seen and the conditions under which that game was existing during that week.

On the deer card, spaces are provided for recording the number of bucks, does, and fawns, damage to crops, distribution, physical condition and food supply. Other cards provide for data regarding game birds and waterfowl, fur-bearing animals, and predatory animals and birds, with appropriate remarks. As a result of a study of the deer cards, it has been possible to draw definite conclusions regarding relative proportion of the sexes and the extent to which they are breeding.

As a means of gathering additional statistics, every holder of a hunting license when applying for a new license will hereafter be required to give in addition to his name, residence, personal appearance, etc., the amount of game that he killed under his old license. This will give an approximate measure of the amount of game actually killed and will give a basis for demonstrable facts. With these facts at hand, wise laws can be maintained on the statute books, and changes will be brought about only as rapidly as actual changes in the condition of wild life justify modification of the law.

When Vermont inaugurated the same system it was pointed out that the value of such a census would be threefold:

1. The warden force will be educated in local conditions and brought into closer harmony with the sportsmen.

2. A basis for wise legislation will be secured for the protection and conservation of a resource of real value in terms of dollars and cents.

3. The educational value to our people as increasing their interest in, and cooperation with, the work of the Department of Fisheries and Game.

STATE GAME DISTRICT 1K.

In connection with the Sequoia Park extension bill introduced in the present session of Congress, which proposes to extend the present boundaries of the Sequoia National Park to include the South and Middle Fork canyons of the Kings, it is worth while, perhaps, to consider the effect that the passing of this bill would have on the game situation in the Sierra and Sequoia National forests, and particularly on the State Game Refuge 1K between the north and middle forks of the Kings.

Nearly one-third of the area of Game District 1K is within the boundaries of the proposed park extension, and as other areas suitable for the propagation of game are also included, and the park regulations do not permit hunting within the national parks, it is only reasonable to suppose that some action may be taken to try to have the present game district abolished, on the grounds that the park will amply provide for all the game protection needed in this part of the mountains.

The fact will still remain, however, that no other area is so favorably situated with regard to ideal conditions for winter breeding grounds as the low brushy southern exposures in township 12 south, range 28 east afford. Because of the rough nature of the country and its inaccessibility, there is little probability of attempted poaching, and while a park would provide protection and ample range during the summer season, I believe it would be a serious mistake if the above-men-

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tioned township at least is not retained as a game preserve where hunting is prevented at all seasons.

It might be argued that the closed season during the winter months offers all the protection that is necessary; but it would be found, I believe, if the game preserve were abolished, that a large number of hunters would flock to this area in the open season, on the assumption that by this time the deer would be working down from the higher elevations where they had been protected in the park and possibly tamed to some extent.

One other consideration is the open bear season of November and December that offers a legitimate excuse for hunting parties in the brush at that time of year. That is the one time when poaching might be carried on, for only a few hunters could resist the temptation to kill some of the numerous bucks they would undoubtedly see, especially since the chances of detection are so small without the continuous presence of a game warden in the vicinity. It would seem much safer to cut out every excuse for legitimate hunting in these breeding grounds.

ROY BOOTHE.

IS THE PORCUPINE WORTH SAVING?

Evidence that we have not yet standardized our game laws is apparant in the different viewpoints taken by the states of New York and Minnesota regarding the porcupine. The New York Conservation Commission classifies the porcupine as "vermin" and enumerates twenty as having been killed during January, 1919. The state of Minnesota, on the other hand, protects the porcupine on the theory that the animal furnishes an easily obtainable source of food to anyone lost in the wilds.

MANICURE THE BIRD-CATCHING CAT.

Dr. Wm. H. Dall, of the United States National Museum, recently pointed out a method that will save our cats and thoroughly protect the birds against their attacks. It is a well-known fact that these animals only seize their prey through the use of the claws on the forefeet. These claws are, as we know, so organized anatomically that when at rest they are retracted, but when brought into play they are thrown forward, so that their sharp points may be instantly employed in the act of seizure. No cat ever attempts to catch a wild bird in the open by employing its hind feet, or the claws upon them. No lion, tiger, leopard, or any of the rest of the big felines in nature ever do. This also holds in the case of pet cats who kill the canary in its cage, or capture the fish in the globe or aquarium.

When one comes to think this over, it soon becomes clear that, were cats deprived of their claws on their forefeet, they could not catch a bird of any kind, however hard they tried. The claws have no more feeling in them than have our finger-nails, to which they really correspond. Cat claws can be trimmed just as we trim our nails, and the best tool to do it with is the small cutting pliers used by jewelers. Anyone can use such a tool, and with a little practice anyone owning a pet cat can readily trim all the claws on its forefeet. All there is to be done is to gently press the foot from above, downwards, between your thumb and forefinger, when the claws will be thrown forward. They should be snipped off a trifle back of their middles applying the cutting edges of the nippers to their sides. A little dressing with delicate file afterwards will also prove advantageous. A cat so operated upon can not possibly catch and kill a wild bird or a pet bird in a cage; nor can it destroy fish in any receptacle in which we may keep them. Moreover a cat with its claws so trimmed can not climb a tree; it is up in trees that they catch many birds, as they likewise do by running up poles topped with bird boxes and bird houses of every description. After the claws are trimmed the foot looks precisely as it did before the trimming was performed—that is to say, nothing unsightly results.

Some will say that it prevents the cat from catching mice. Well, what of it? There is not one cat in a hundred that catches mice for any purpose; moreover, a few mousetraps of modern models will very quickly rid house, barn, and outhouses of all description of mice. Any of the "cyclone" pattern of traps will do it in a few weeks. Cats with trimmed claws can enjoy their milk and other food just as well as with untrimmed ones, so there is no cruelty done along such lines.

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Finally, were we to trim the claws in the manner indicated of all claimed cats, and destroy all cats not claimed by anyone, we would save thousands of insectivorous birds annually; and surely the country has by this time begun to realize what the insectivorous birds mean to the farm and agriculturist generally. A federal law should be enacted to enforce what is indicated in this matter, and be so framed that, when passed, it would be in the highest degree effective.—*Ill. Audobon Soc. Bull.*, 1918.

A PLAN TO CONSERVE WYOMING ELK.

After a very careful investigation of the problems presented by the herds of elk on the National Forests adjacent to the Yellowstone National Park, Henry S. Graves, chief forester, and E. W. Nelson, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, have suggested a plan, based on sound biological principles, for conserving this valuable game animal. They propose the maintenance of the present herds, estimated to number from 40,000 to 45,000, and the use of the annual increase for legitimate hunting and distribution to build up other herds. The maintenance of these herds is to be accomplished by the acquisition by purchase or exchange of private land to provide needed additional winter forage, and the setting aside of adjoining areas as game refuges, the progressive extinguishment of sheep grazing privileges to prevent any possible conflict between wild life and domestic stock, the enlargement of the present government ranch in Jackson Valley to provide forage during severe seasons, a vigorous campaign against predatory animals that destroy elk, and state legislation requiring hunters to report the number and kind of animals killed and to preserve and make economic use of the meat. In addition, it is pointed out that a special study of the migratory drift and winter and summer habits of the elk to supply certain facts now in doubt should be instituted.

FUR FARMING IN ALASKA.

The United States Bureau of Fisheries in a recent bulletin (Document 847) gives interesting information regarding fur farming in Alaska. Reports are given on the success attained by no less than 25 different breeders. Fur farming in Alaska is concerned almost wholly with the breeding and rearing of foxes, but some attention has been given to minks and martens, and there are records of martens having been born and reared in captivity in the territory. Although skunks and raccoons have been introduced into Southeastern Alaska, nothing is known as to the success attained.

The history of fur farming in southeastern Alaska is with but few exceptions a history of failures rather than successes. Three good reasons for the failures can be advanced: one, neglect due to irresponsible men left in charge; two, discouragement following failure of the industry to prove a "get-rich-quick" proposition; three, lack of experience and knowledge in handling fur animals. Nevertheless, the opportunities for the fur farmer in Alaska are almost unlimited.

HOW DO BIRDS FIND THEIR WAY?

A lecturer at the California Academy of Sciences on January 15 discoursed on "How Migrating Birds Find Their Way." This lecturer upset all my previous notions that instinct had anything to do in guiding birds on long journeys, and gave numerous instances to prove that birds followed previously observed currents of air and water in their flight, or rose and depended upon sighting distant landmarks through their well-known powerful vision.

As a lover of birds and a former breeder of homing pigeons (usually called carrier pigeons) my observation leads me to believe that the orienting instinct of birds is innate, on the same principle that, biologically, plant and animal life is governed by the influences of light and heat. I cite a case in our late war of bird travel under difficulties. A Lake County man began to raise homers (carriers) for the United States Army in France. Anxious to try out his stock he sent a male fledgling to my home at 1125 Bush street, San Francisco, in a little collar box with a few holes perforated in the cardboard. Wheat lay on the bottom of the box, but the bird was cramped and did not eat it on the rough stage trip from the mountains. When it arrived, it had nothing in its crop and it should have been nurtured, but next day it was taken from the dark box, a quill fastened to its leg

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with date, hour, and minute, and released. It barely made the fire wall of the five-story apartment house next door, and sat stretching one leg and wing, then the other, preened its feathers, lifted its head to one side, then the other, rose, circled a few times and darted north. Being of good homing stock, I thought we should hear from it next day, but three weeks passed, then came word that the bird had got home, worn, bedraggled, with a .22 bullet wound through its breast and wing, over which the blood and feathers had matted or had been stuffed in the wounds by the bill of the bird. The wounds were weeks old.

Now, how did the bird exist, and how did it find its way—a young bird, its first flight after a seventy-five mile trip in a dark box, from which it never gleaned sight of a landmark to guide it home to the Switzerland of America if not by some inherent trait? Can CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME readers elucidate?—JOHN OLIVER TITLOW.

A SUGGESTION FOR CALIFORNIA CONSERVATIONISTS.

It may be of interest to those concerned with the conservation of wild life in California to note that the state of New York number of game and fur-bearing animals ing of additional information as to the number of game- and fur-bearing animals killed in that state. The *American Field* for December 28, 1918, page 593, states that:

"Beginning January 1 all applicants for hunting and trapping licenses in New York State will be required to make a statement of the game and fur-bearing animals which they took under their license for the previous year if they had one.

This information will be tabulated on the stubs of the licenses, which are retained by the town and village clerks and will give to the Conservation Commission accurate information of the greatest value regarding the food and game resources of the state.

Statements of their 1918 catch, which sportsmen make when securing their 1919 licenses, will necessarily be from memory, but to assist them in keeping track of what they take during 1919 a neat little tally card will be supplied when the licenses are taken out, upon which the sportsmen can keep a record during the year.

Both license and tally card will be handed to the applicant in a stout manila envelope, in which he may carry them in the field and keep them clean throughout the year."

It is believed that this suggestion will appeal strongly to Californians. As the tendency toward reduction in the numbers of game and fur-bearing mammals becomes more noticeable, it is fortunate that public opinion is insisting more and more upon scientific administration of the fish and game resources of the state. It is evident that a common sense program of this sort is dependent upon adequate information, and it seems that the method suggested is one which gives promise of valuable results. The writer has been advised by Dr. T. S. Palmer that the method has been given a partial trial by one or two of the provinces of Canada and a similar number of states. The chief difficulty in regard to it is in connection with enforcement. Changes in residence and failure to appreciate the necessity for definiteness in the record are among the complicating factors. It is believed, however, that the adoption of a measure of this sort would be a long step in the right direction. In California this would be particularly true with reference to the fur-bearing mammals, concerning the numbers of which taken during any one season adequate information is not available.—WALTER P. TAYLOR, Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

THE GAME BIRDS OF CALIFORNIA.

The Game Birds of California (Contribution from the University of California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology) by Joseph Grinnell, Harold Child Bryant, and Tracy Irwin Storer: University of California Press, Berkeley, 1918. Large 8vo., pp. x–642, 16 colored pls., 94 figs. in text. Cloth, $6.00 net.

The volume of the above title is the comprehensive book on the game birds of California that sportsmen, nature lovers, and serious students of bird-life have long needed. The book aims to supply the naturalist with complete information to date regarding the life histories of California birds, to give the hunter useful facts concerning the birds he wishes to shoot, to furnish the legislator with helpful suggestions relevant to the preparation of game laws, and to give the conservationist information which will aid

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him in his efforts to perpetuate bird life. The authors took into account all four of these classes of readers and selected and arranged their material accordingly.

Every one of the 108 native game birds of the state is described in detail, these including the ducks, geese, swans, ibises, cranes, rails, snipe, sandpipers, curlew, plover, quail, grouse, pigeons and doves. The localities in which each is found, and the times of the year when it is found, are designated and its life history and habits are accurately described.

The extensive collections and field notes in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, supplemented by previously published knowledge from the experience of ornithologists throughout the West, have formed the basis for the volume. To this groundwork has been added material obtained from interviews with numerous reliable sportsmen and directly from the fresh field experiences of the authors themselves. The whole is worked into what constitutes a practically complete summary of our knowledge of each of the species down to date. The authors do not claim that the book contains everything that ought to be known about each of the game birds of California; far from it, for more extended observations are certain to provide multitudes of new facts. This book should act as a stimulus for future observers, leading them to add to what is now made common knowledge regarding our game birds.

The joint authorship of the book is the working out of the principle that the highest plane of scientific output is likely to be reached only through co-operative effort. When one author works alone, mistakes are made unawares; but when two, or better three, are at work, one is able to check another's work to advantage, and an increased measure of accuracy is the result.

An underlying incentive for the publication of the present work was found in the decrease of many valuable species of game birds and the apparent apathy of the public with reference to instituting proper measures to conserve them. The book adequately treats of the means to be taken to conserve game and makes practical recommendations suited to each species.

Introductory chapters are devoted to general subjects, as follows: Decrease of Game and its Causes; Natural Enemies of Game Birds; The Gun Club in California; History of Attempts to Introduce Non-native Game Birds; The Propagation of Game Birds; Legislation Relating to Game Birds in California. The sportsman and nature lover will find much of immediate utility in these general chapters.

The technical matter useful to the special student of birds is found condensed in small type at the head of each discussion. This makes reference to the finer characters of each species easy, and at the same time segregates this formal matter from the more readable text following.

The plan of treatment of each bird follows a regular sequence: Technical portion (in small type): Accepted common and scientific names; other names; description: adult male, adult female, juvenile, downy young; marks for field identification; voice; nest; eggs; general distribution; distribution in California. Text (in large type): General and local distribution; migration; field marks; life history: nest, eggs, young; habits and behavior; food; economic value; present and probable future status.

"The Game Birds of California" is well illustrated with line drawings and colored plates. Thirteen of the sixteen colored plates were made by the well-known artist, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, and the other three by Major Allan Brooks, now of the Canadian army. In all, twenty-one different game birds are figured in color. The 94 line drawings serve largely to illustrate characters of plumage, bill, or feet, such as are especially helpful in identifying the different kinds of game birds.

As a sample of what may be expected in the treatment of each species, attention may be called to the chapter on the Valley Quail. Twenty-three pages are utilized in describing the bird, its nest, eggs, distribution, field marks, habits and behavior. Here will be found interesting evidence to show that the male birds act as sentinels. A compilation of data on time of nesting and size of clutch occupies over four pages. It is demonstrated that the valley quail lays more eggs than any other game bird, and under normal conditions suffers corresponding mortality.

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Means of controlling this mortality are suggested. A discussion of the agricultural bearing, early hunting for the market, and present and probable status of this upland game bird concludes the chapter.

All through the book especial attention is given to those distinctive characters of a bird that help to make it recognizable from other species when alive, at a distance. A useful field manual is thereby provided. A dependable key to the various species makes possible the identification of any specimen in hand. The index contains all the common as well as the scientific names, thus making it easy to locate any bird, provided some name is known, even though this name be a very local, popular one.

Every school and library in the western states should contain a copy of this work for reference use, for more and more is the natural history of bird life assuming importance as a subject of general popular culture. Individuals interested in the fascinating field treated in this work should waste no time in securing copies.

PASSENGER PIGEONS REPORTED IN EASTERN STATES.

Apparently the death on September 1, 1914, of Martha, a twenty-nine year old passenger pigeon kept in captivity in the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens, marked the extinction of the passenger pigeon. At least for several seasons thereafter, a prize offered for the discovery of a passenger pigeon's inhabited nest failed to disclose any pigeons.

During 1918, however, several persons reported seeing passenger pigeons. Baymen and oystermen of Great South Bay insist that a few pigeons still migrate along the southern shore of Long Island, New York.

According to a letter published in SCIENCE, Messrs. Rasmussen, Wilson and Sanders, of Amsterdam, New York, encountered a flock of passenger pigeons on October 1, 1918, while on a bird-study trip in the vicinity of West Galway and Charlton, New York. One of the birds lighted within a few feet of the party, and Mr. Rasmussen, who has been studying birds for 25 years, declares that there is no possible doubt of the identification.

The latest report is from John M. Crampton, 61 years of age, and Superintendent of the Connecticut State Board of Fisheries and Game. He describes having seen three passenger pigeons in the middle of May, 1918, while fishing at Granis Pond, Southington, Connecticut. He maintains that he had no difficulty in identifying them, for he has been acquainted with the appearance and habits of the passenger pigeon since early boyhood, having been 13 years old when he first shot passenger pigeons, and having had a trained passenger pigeon for a pet for a long time. On June 2, 1918, a Mr. Wooster, who was told of the find, saw three birds, and on June 9, a Mr. Parker saw two birds in the same vicinity.

ENGLISH GAME BIRDS VINDICATED.

Recent investigations of the food of the English pheasant, the red grouse and the partridge of England show that these splendid game birds do not appreciably damage growing crops.* The stomach examination of 183 stomachs of pheasants show that their food consists largely of injurious insects and weeds. This conclusion is of particular interest when it is known that the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on February 8, 1917, authorized the War Agricultural Executive Committee of each county to reduce the stock of pheasants on any land "where there is a risk of substantial injury therefrom to crops." The only possible harm occasioned by the pheasant for which there seems to be any reliable evidence is that of tramping down corn, and this is not of frequent occurrence, but happens only where birds are unusually abundant.

The food of the young red grouse is made up largely of insects, while that of the adult is largely browse secured from heather and twenty or thirty other plants. So far as agriculture is concerned, the partridge is a harmless bird. The percentage of cereals consumed is small and restricted to a very short season of the year. This is secured largely in stubblefields.

In conclusion, it is pointed out that blame for crop destruction should be fixed upon

*Collinge, W. E., On the food and feeding habits of British game birds. Reprint from Jour. Land Agents Soc., June, 1917, pp. 1-8.

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the right species and that the wood pigeon, rook, certain species of gull and the starling have been proved guilty. If birds of the above character are destroyed wholesale the farmer is being robbed of a species that are beneficial, and the real culprits as well as the injurious insects eaten by the game birds, are left to continue their work of destruction of the country's food supply.

THE GROUND SQUIRRELS OF CALIFORNIA.

Anyone interested in the life history or the control of the ground squirrel should obtain a copy of the November-December number of the Monthly Bulletin of the State Horticultural Commission which is available free of charge. This bulletin contains thoroughly up-to-date and unquestionably authoritative information on the ground squirrels of California and their control, compiled by leading state and federal investigators. In the leading article each of the 18 different varieties of ground squirrels known to inhabit the state are treated, and nine of these are figured in color. It is pointed out that only four of these varieties are of special economic importance.

THE FOOD OF MALLARD DUCKS.

A recent bulletin (No. 720) of the United States Department of Agriculture treats of the food habits of the mallard ducks of the United States. Mr. W. L. McAtee, the author, devotes eight pages to an enumeration of the different kinds of food taken by the mallard, the information being based on the examination of 1725 gizzards. The enormous quantities of seeds taken by the mallard duck is evidenced by two stomachs. One contained about 28,160 seeds of a bulrush, 8700 of a sedge, 35,840 of primrose willow, and 2560 duck weeds, a total of more than 75,200. Another stomach contained no fewer than 102,400 seeds of primrose willow besides a number of other items in smaller numbers. "The seeds in this stomach if sowed one in a place and a foot apart each way would suffice for two and one-half acres of ground."

About one-tenth of the food of the mallard is derived from the animal kingdom and nine-tenths from the vegetable. A large proportion of the vegetable food is made up of the seeds of sedges with those of grasses ranking next in importance. About 2.34 per cent of the food of the birds examined was made up of acorns. The animal food consists of mollusks, insects, fishes and crustaceans in order of importance.

Such a detailed report of the food of one of our best game birds is not only valuable in proving the economic status of the bird itself, but should be of help in providing attractive food for wild birds and suitable food for mallards on the game farm.

WILD BIRDS AND LEGISLATION.

Apparently other countries than the United States have suffered from the result of hasty and ill-considered legislation relative to wild birds. In a recent paper by Doctor Collinge, the foremost economic ornithologist of Great Britain, he points out some of the more important statutes passed by Parliament and their ultimate effects upon wild bird life.* The dominant idea throughout early acts of Parliament seems to have been that birds must be reserved and preserved for the king and his retinue, or such favored individuals to whom he pleased to grant licenses.

Practically all of the acts are characterized by selfishness and an utter disregard of the interests of agriculture or horticulture. Among the curious acts are one making it a felony, punishable by death, for a person to wrongfully take the eggs of any "falcon, goshawk, or laner, or the birds of any falcon, goshawk, or lauer or laneret," and one providing that "any person who shall take or attempt to take any wild bird by means of a hook or other similar instrument shall be guilty of an offense."

In the summary Dr. Collinge states that a dispassionate and unprejudiced consideration of the facts leads to the following conclusions:

1. That in the past the question of wild bird protection and destruction has never received really serious consideration. The objects sought in most of the acts of Parliament upon the subject have been largely of a selfish nature and not for the good of the country.

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*Wild Birds and Legislation, by Walter E. Collinge. Jour. Land Agents Soc., 1917, pp. 278-285.

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2. That the majority of these acts have been ill-considered and often hastily prepared; many of them have been repealed and others frequently amended or modified.

3. That no attempt has been made by those who advocate the protection of wild birds, to understand the problem presented by wild bird life. Blindly, and often strongly prejudiced, they advocate protection for all birds, and protection only.

4. That such an attitude is calling forth a deep resentment from those who have to live by the products of the soil, many of whom having waited in vain for repressive measures, *have now taken to destroying wholesale all bird life.*

5. *That the irresponsible advocacy of uniform protection is indirectly contributing more than anything else to the wanton destruction of many of our most useful birds.* "Some of the very greatest friends that our nation has are being destroyed without mercy * * * a defensive force upon which most of our prosperity depends."

6. That the immediate need of the present is for a wide and comprehensive act that will give protection to all non-injurous or beneficial birds, and provide adequate repressive measures for those species which have become too numerous and destructive.

The same condition seems to exist almost everywhere. Realization of the chaotic condition of the game laws due to hasty, ill-considered and constantly changing legislation is not lacking, but the initiative to clean things up and to base game legislation on scientific fact rather than on selfish motive rarely exists.

H. C. BRYANT.

FLY LARVAE SUCK BLOOD OF NESTLING BIRDS.

A recent publication of the University of California points out that the nestlings of many of our common song-birds are infested with the larvæ of a fly which sucks the blood.* The fly which is responsible is very much like the common housefly, but is of a metallic blue color. This fly lays its eggs in a newly-occupied nest, and soon the larvae which hatch from the eggs attach themselves to the young birds. Deserted nests usually contain the pupae. Among the common birds whose nests and nestlings were found infested were: the Nuttall sparrow, California purple finch, California linnet, green-backed goldfinch, willow goldfinch, and the California brown towhee. The author of the paper concludes that from 5 to 10 per cent of the parasitized nestlings die from loss of blood.

This discovery doubtless helps to explain the mortality among nestling birds so often noted in the bay region.

*Plath, O. E., A mussel larva of the San Francisco Bay region which sucks the blood of nestling birds. Univ. of Calif. Publ. Zool., 19, 281-290.

IMPORTATION OF QUAIL FROM MEXICO.

The joint regulations governing the importation of quail from Mexico, issued by the Treasury Department and the Department of Agriculture under date of November 13, 1916, were in full force and effect the past season, the entry of quail being permitted from February 15 to April 10, inclusive, and on March 8, 1918, Laredo, Texas, was designated as a port of entry in addition to Eagle Pass, Texas, and New York City. Co-operation was continued with the Bureau of Animal Industry in having a thorough inspection of the birds made during the ten days' quarantine.

The first permit was issued February 20, 1918, and the last, April 4. The number of quail for which permits were issued was 10,500, and the number released from quarantine only 5,205, as compared with permits issued for 42,973, and the release of 32,814 in 1917.

The notably large decrease in the number of quail actually imported during the past year is accounted for by the scarcity of birds in northern Mexico due to drought, and the refusal of large ranch owners to permit the trapping of quail on property owned and controlled by them. Also it is evident that state game officials were reluctant the past year to purchase Mexican quail for propagation because of the severe losses of birds imported during the season of 1917.

Of the 5,205 birds actually released from quarantine only 16 were found dead during the ten days quarantine period, and no case of quail disease was discovered. So far as reports received by the department indicate, there were few losses of birds in shipping. The change of dates

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for the importation of Mexican quail—beginning at a later period, February 15, instead of in the fall, as in 1916—has proved beneficial by preventing the birds from reaching the northern states during severe winter weather.—Report of Chief of Bureau of Biological Survey, 1918, p. 17.

FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD LAW.

Owing to the prevention of spring shooting during the last few years, under the federal migratory bird law, a great increase in migratory wild fowl has been reported practically throughout the entire United States. The reports state that more birds were killed during the fall of 1917 than in any similar season for many years. With the need of increasing food resources, this increase in game birds, as a result of a federal conservation law, was a practical and opportune return. Continued protection of our wild fowl during the spring will unquestionably continue to increase the returns in food and sport from this source each year.

For administrative purposes under the migratory bird law the United States is divided into 13 districts, under the supervision of 12 inspectors, who, with the assistance of 182 federal wardens, enforce the regulations, in the various states. During the year the commissions of 47 federal wardens were terminated and 49 new wardens were appointed.

The inspectors and federal wardens reported 313 violations of the regulations, which with those of previous years make a total of 1,132 cases on file. All but 29 of these cases, which have been disposed of in court, have been withheld pending the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the case of the *United States* v. *Shauver*, involving the constitutionality of the law. Defects in the law, particularly in that it did not make the possession of birds during the closed season unlawful, and did not confer on inspectors and wardens the power of arrest and search, made it possible for many violators to escape. A further difficulty in enforcement was encountered in the limited number of inspectors, each with an unduly large district. Reports, however, show that violations were more sporadic and fewer birds were killed unlawfully than in previous years.

Voluminous information has been received from state game commissions and others showing that there is an ever-increasing number of waterfowl and shorebirds in most of the states; furthermore, that wild fowl have become unusually tame in spring because they are not molested at that season; and that many thousands are breeding in localities where they had not nested for many years.

The consensus of opinion attributes these greatly improved conditions to the general observance of the federal prohibition against spring shooting which has been brought about through the good will of sportsmen and by the increased activities of this bureau, with closer co-operation of state game authorities.

The friendly attitude of the state game commissions toward the federal migratory bird law has been shown in many ways, particularly in their initiative whereby the state and federal regulations have been brought into harmony. Twenty-three states now have laws making the open seasons on migratory wild fowl similar to those under the federal regulations. Amendments of the regulations were promulgated October 15, 1917, which assisted in unifying federal and state game laws, thus simplifying their administration.

A bill to give effect to the treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of birds which migrate between this country and Canada passed the Senate July 30, 1917. The Senate bill, with amendments, passed the House June 6, 1918, and was then referred to a conference committee. The conference report was adopted by the House June 28, and by the Senate June 29, and the bill was signed by the President and became effective July 3, 1918. Nation-wide interest was manifested in the passage of this legislation, which was secured through the united efforts of state game commissions, sportsmen, farmers, and others interested in the conservation of wild life. The new law contains many excellent provisions necessary for its effective enforcement, and it will be possible to obtain much more satisfactory results under it than have been possible under the original migratory bird law. Canada has already passed an enabling act and promulgated regulations for enforcing the terms of the treaty.—Report of Chief of Bureau of Biological Survey, 1918, pp. 17–19.

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LONG RUN OF A TAGGED SALMON.

The United States Bureau of Fisheries has received from John P. Babcock, of the Fisheries Department of British Columbia, record of the capture in the upper Fraser River of a sockeye salmon bearing on its tail a button that had been inserted in marking experiments carried on by the bureau on Puget Sound.

The fish, dip-netted by an Indian at Soda Creek Canyon, British Columbia, on August 16, 1918, had been taken at Village Point, Lumni Island, Washington, on July 19, 1918. Soda Creek is approximately 400 miles from the mouth of the Fraser River, and Village Point is about 70 miles from the same place. Therefore, assuming that the fish moved by the most direct route, the average rate of travel was nearly 17 miles a day.

NIGHT HERONS GAME IN LOUISIANA.

California was for some time noted as the only state in the Union which permitted the hunting of ibis. Louisiana now holds the distinction of being the only state where the night heron is considered a game bird. According to the 1916-18 Biennial Report of the Department of Conservation of Louisiana, the night heron is often utilized as food and the law provides for an open season from November 1 to February 15 with a bag limit of 15 birds. Both the black-crowned night heron and the yellow-crowned are found in the state, and both are popularly known as "Gros-becs." The young while in immature plumage are particularly sought after by hunters and that is why when served *sautes a l'oignon* it is considered a dish "fit for the gods."

CALIFORNIA TROUT.

What kind of a trout did I catch last summer?

An answer to this and like questions will be found in the July number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME which will be a TROUT NUMBER. The colored plates will make identification of trout easy. Watch for the TROUT NUMBER.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

The first case made under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act resulted in the conviction of four violators and a sentence of $100.00 fine or 60 days imprisonment.

The work of the deputies in the duck country has been greatly simplified the past year. Fear of the federal law has resulted in few violations.

Whistling swans were abundant in western Stanislaus and Merced counties during the latter part of the open season, but left about the first of February. Several parties who could not forego the excitement of taking a shot at these beautiful birds were apprehended by deputies, and severely fined.

The Sacramento Orphanage and Farm, the Sacramento County Hospital, and the Registrar of Charities, have recently been the recipients of 631 ducks confiscated by deputies during the open season on waterfowl.

The attempt of market hunters to make shipments of ducks to parties in San Francisco whom the shippers did not know was frustrated by deputies of the commission. The old stunt of shipping under fictitious names is not so easily worked as it once was.

Ring-necked pheasants have become so numerous in Inyo County that residents are demanding an open season.

Large catches of herring have been made this spring and this fish has been selling as low as four cents a pound, retail. Even at this price the demand is not sufficient to prevent tons of herring going to the fertilizer works.

The new hatchery on Fall Creek, a tributary of the Klamath River, has been turned over to the Fish and Game Commission by the California-Oregon Power Company and it is now in full operation.

J. C. Bruce of Wawona, who was recently appointed state mountain lion hunter, killed three of the animals on his first day's hunt in Tuolumne County. Mr. Bruce made his record near South Fork Camp and was assisted by his trained varmint dogs. He will remain in Tuolumne County a month and then go to Shasta County to continue the work.

The salmon catch in 1918 was unusually large, exceeding 12,800,000 pounds.

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HATCHERY NOTES.

W. H. SHEBLEY, Editor.

Mount Shasta Hatchery.

Approximately ten million quinnat salmon eggs have been shipped to the Mount Shasta Hatchery from the United States Bureau of Fisheries station on the Sacramento River tributaries and from the Klamath River Station, which was operated this year by the California Fish and Game Commission. The eggs have all been hatched out and the fry will be distributed in the upper reaches of the Sacramento and Klamath rivers as soon as they are of suitable size. A considerable number will be held in the three large salmon-rearing ponds at the hatchery over the summer months, and released after the first fall rains.

Loch Leven and eastern brook trout egg collecting operations at the Mount Shasta Hatchery were very successful this season. There are 1,300,000 eastern brook and 3,000,000 Loch Leven eggs and fry on hand at the station at this date.

The rainbow egg-collecting season is a little late this year, there being only 69,000 eggs of this species on hand at the hatchery on March 1.

Mount Whitney Hatchery.

A supply of eastern brook and Loch Leven trout eggs have been shipped from the Mount Shasta Hatchery to the Mount Whitney Hatchery and the fry resulting will be reared and distributed, together with the other species of trout fry handled at this hatchery this season, in the waters of southern California, Tulare and Kern counties.

Work on the improvement of the grounds at the Mount Whitney Hatchery is progressing nicely, much of the preliminary grading and filling-in work having been completed.

Mount Tallac Hatchery.

Arrangements are being made to open the Mount Tallac Hatchery about the middle of March, and an effort will be made to take the usual number of black-spotted trout eggs this season.

Fort Seward Hatchery.

Quinnat salmon eggs to the number of 1,000,000 have been shipped to the Fort Seward Hatchery, and the fry are being reared for distribution in the Eel River and tributaries, Mad River, and tributaries of Humboldt Bay. The usual number of steelhead trout eggs will be shipped to Fort Seward Hatchery this season for distribution in streams of the north coast counties.

Almanor Hatchery.

Egg collecting operations at the Almanor Hatchery were commenced the middle of February. The run of rainbow trout in that section is late this season, and to date no eggs have been taken.

Domingo Springs Hatchery.

This hatchery will be opened up the middle of March and it is expected that the usual take of rainbow trout eggs will be obtained from this station.

Snow Mountain Hatchery.

On February 1 a crew was sent to open up the Snow Mountain Egg-collecting Station and Ukiah Hatchery. Practically all the eggs taken this season at Snow Mountain will be transported by auto truck to Ukiah and "eyed" at that station, as there are better facilities for handling the work at the latter place.

Bear Lake Hatchery.

Arrangements are being made to open up the Bear Lake Hatchery during the fore part of March, and the crew is all ready to proceed as soon as it is possible to get into Big Bear Valley.

Brookdale Hatchery.

Egg-collecting operations were commenced at the Scott Creek Station during the fore part of February, and while the run is a little late, as in other sections of the state, nearly a half million steelhead trout eggs have been taken to date. They are being immediately transported to the Brookdale Hatchery, where they are being "eyed." The usual number of trout fry will be hatched at Brookdale Hatchery for distribution in the streams of Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties. An additional supply of trout fry will be retained at the Brookdale Hatchery and held in the rearing ponds for distribution during the late summer months in the streams of San Mateo and Marin counties.

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Fall Creek Hatchery.

Fall Creek Hatchery, which was constructed by the California-Oregon Power Company, and turned over to the California Fish and Game Commission in lieu of the construction of a fish ladder over the Copco Dam, is in active operation at the present time.

Egg-collecting operations at the auxiliary stations located on Bogus Creek and Camp Creek were commenced during the middle of February, and to date a total of 600,000 eggs have been taken.

A little over a million quinnat salmon eggs were shipped to the Fall Creek Hatchery from the Mount Shasta Hatchery, and the fry resulting from this shipment will be reared and planted in the Klamath River as soon as they have reached the proper age.

Yosemite Experimental Hatchery.

Troughs and fishcultural paraphernalia have been constructed for the Yosemite Experimental Hatchery and plans made to operate early this spring to determine the suitability of the water for hatchery purposes on a large scale in the Yosemite Valley.

Fish Distribution.

In preparation for the season's fish distribution work, Fish Distribution Car No. 01 has been placed in the car shops at Sacramento for extensive repairs. Arrangements are being made for a very early distribution of trout fry this season.

COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. SCOFIELD, Editor.

Biological Stations Want Protection.

Much of our dependable information regarding marine life comes as the result of carefully planned experiments at the various biological stations along the coast. Oftentimes marine plants or animals are taken from their native habitat and planted near the station where they can be watched and studied. Valuable experiments which have been started have sometimes been made worthless because of the removal of specimens by thoughtless people. To avoid recurrences of this kind the various stations are asking for a law prohibiting the catching or removing of marine plants or animals within one mile of any marine biological station. In view of the facts as stated above such a law seems reasonable.

Fig. 35. Unloading sardines at Monterey, California. Photograph by Carriel.

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Proposed Change of Shrimp Law Would Menace Fish Life.

Attempts are again being made to modify the present shrimp law to allow shrimp fishing in the northern part of San Francisco Bay. Shrimp fishing is now limited to the south bay in order to prevent the destruction of valuable food fish. In order that the Fish and Game Commission might be in possession of facts to oppose the change several hauls of a shrimp net have been made near McNear's Point. Many young striped bass and other young fishes were taken in the hauls and these will be preserved in the form of evidence.

Launch "Albacore" Attempts to Aid Fishermen.

Canneries at San Diego, although well supplied with large sardines, have been short of small-sized ones, which are in great demand. The Fish and Game Commission launch "Albacore" recently spent some time attempting to locate schools of small sardines. The launch had little better success than the regular fishing boats. Where the small fish are located is still a mystery.

New Cannery Established at Ensenada.

The Mexican Industrial Development Company is building a new cannery at Ensenada, Mexico. This company plans to can albacore, crawfish, turtle, and tuna. They will also ship fresh fish to San Diego.

Japanese Trawler in Nets of Law.

One of the first arrests for dragging trawl nets within the three-mile limit that has been made since the food administration's rulings lapsed at the first of the year was recently made in southern California by Deputy H. B. Nidever. Although the Japanese crew aboard the fishing boat "California" of San Pedro cut away their net on finding that they were pursued, they were, nevertheless, rounded up. After a three and a half hour search the specially-designed salvaging gear of the launch recovered the abandoned trawl net. Evidence of the destructive feature of the trawl net was apparent in the large number of fish of many different varieties found in the net. It is because of the large hauls possible with such a net that its use is prohibited in shallow waters.

NOTES FROM THE LONG BEACH LABORATORY.

By WILL F. THOMPSON and ELMER HIGGINS.

Among the rare fish which have come into the laboratory and have not been recorded in "CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME," is a specimen of what we may term "square-tail" for lack of a common name. It is scientifically known as *Tetragonurus cuvieri* Risso. The individual is mounted, fourteen and a half inches long, and somewhat badly preserved because of frequent handling. The exact locality can not be discovered, the fisherman who owns the fish having forgotten it, but it was near Catalina. This is the first record of the species in the North Pacific. It was taken two years ago or more.

It is characterized by two sharp ridges on each side of the tail, which is deeply forked. These ridges are formed by the hard, rough scales, and appear capable of giving a severe injury. The scales over the whole body are very hard, with fine striations on them, and seem to be fastened together in oblique rows running across the body, so that one might be able to tear them off in strips. The mouth is small, and the fins feeble in appearance, while the teeth show plainly that the species is not capable of attacking large prey, for they are small and comb-like although numerous.

Although there are very early records of its presence in the Mediterranean, yet it is even there a very rare fish. It was probably known as early as 1554, for Rondelet, a writer of one of the very earliest natural histories, published a crude figure, calling it *Mugil niger*, which may well have been this species. Aldrovandi, a later writer, called it *Corvus niloticus*. Willoughby, in 1686, also described it. But the first author giving a description of what is without doubt this fish was Risso, in 1810. Since the time of Risso, the fish has been taken several times in the Mediterranean and near the Madeira Islands. Other specimens have been taken near Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and one has been taken in Aus-

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tralia. The specimen here mentioned is the first from our coast line, indeed the first from the North Pacific. We have also a number of specimens which are very small, up to an inch and a half in length, which we have taken in the small meshed nets used by the boat "Albacore," and which are very probably this species. If so, the species must be very abundant instead of very rare, and its rarity must be ascribed to the fact that the fishermen do not take it with any of their gear.

It is said, by the European writers who have chronicled its appearance, that it is at times very poisonous. It is thought to feed on jellyfish and such animals, and to approach the coast in the fall in order to spawn. When it is taken it is usually very inactive and feeble in its movements, probably because it is far from its own native habitat, which is thought to be the very deep sea.—W. F.T.

During the work of the "Albacore" there have been taken several very odd forms of fish. Notable among them is a fish with stalked eyes. It seems to be the same species as one which has been taken in the Indian Ocean, and which has been called *Stylophthalmus paradoxus*. The eye stalks are very long, being one and a quarter times the length of the head. The eyes are set on the end of these long slender stalks, and give a very peculiar appearance to the fish. One must be at a loss to know the use to which such eyes could be put. The fish itself is but two and a half inches long and as transparent as a jellyfish, with black dots along the whole of its very slender and delicate body.—W. F. T.

The fish known as the "King of the Salmon" in textbooks dealing with fish, a member of the genus *Trachypterus*, is supposedly very rare. But in the explorations of the "Albacore" numerous young have been taken. It would seem that it is another of those fish which are not taken by the fishermen, and an instance in which it is obvious that the common belief that a fish is rare because the fishermen do not take it, is wrong.

It is undoubtedly true that it is not possible to obtain accurate samples of the life in the ocean, either by commercial or scientific fishing, when the adult fishes are concerned. There are assuredly species which are never taken by any form of gear save when they are disabled or when they accidentally leave their habitats. It must be just as true that species which are abundant at times are capable of hiding themselves or avoiding the available apparatus used for fishing so completely as to give the impression that the species has left the region. The accidental discovery of such cases should render us very cautious in our conclusions regarding the relative abundance of a species in a region, or the migrations which they undertake.—W. F. T.

A species of sanddab hitherto supposed to be confined to Mexican waters has been taken by the "Albacore" in considerable numbers a few miles south of Oceanside and also by fishermen in the region of San Diego. This species, *Citharichthys xanthostigma*, rather closely resembles the sand dab of the San Francisco markets, but is a wider, plumper fish, equal if not superior in quality to its northern relative. It may prove very important commercially.—E. H.

Another interesting specimen taken by the "Albacore" in one of her scientific collecting trips is that of a flying fish, new to these waters. The specimen, of the species *Exonautes rondeletii*, was taken some 150 miles off San Diego; and although the species is of wide range in tropical seas, it has heretofore been recorded on this coast only from Acapulco, Mexico, 1700 miles to the south.

Southern California is supposed to yield but one species of flying fish—the one so well known to the sportsmen-anglers of Catalina Island; and whether the new fish is a permanent resident hitherto undistinguished from the common species, which it closely resembles, or another visitant from the south is still a doubtful question.—E. H.

During February the "Albacore" landed Mr. Horace Linton on San Nicholas, a bleak and desolate island off the southern California coast, for the purpose of making some investigations on the abalone. Mr. Linton is a man over sixty years of

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but he intends to live on the island alone for three months and carry on his observations. He expects to look for abalones which he marked and "planted" there six years ago and also to mark many more. He believes that the supply can be increased by intelligent thinning out and transplanting, but whether or not he succeeds in raising the supply to an extent which will be of commercial value, his observations may throw some light on the habits of this most desirable mollusk.

E. H.

The noting of unusual species in southern California seems to have impressed many people with the opinion that the year 1918 has been a very unusual year. It is very probable that it is such a year, but it is here desired to call attention to the fact that this is the first year during which the Long Beach laboratory of the Fish and Game Commission has been actively watching for unusual species, and that aside from the observations which have been contributed to "CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME" from it, there have been very few rare species noted, from that vicinity. The popular saying in southern California that "every year is an unusual year in California" comes to mind in this connection, and one must of necessity be very cautious in concluding that last year was any more unusual than the preceding years have been.—W. F. T.

During the past four months the "Albacore" has had the opportunity to take several trips for scientific purposes. On November 26 and 27 one was made to Catalina Island and return to haul for young fish and eggs; November 30 to December 7, a trip was made to Point Concepcion and return to obtain flatfish by bottom trawling; December 8 to 10, the trip to Catalina Island was repeated; December 11 to 14, the coast from San Pedro to San Diego was prospected for flatfish; February 3, 4 and 5, a trip was made to San Nicholas Island with Mr. Linton, to haul also for young fish and eggs over deep water; and February 6 and 7 were consumed in a trip to Newport to do bottom trawling in the bay. The next trip for scientific purposes should begin about the first of March. These trips have been very largely for the purpose of exploration, and beginning with the March trip, it is hoped to take regular trips over a definite route, in order to follow the development and drift of the pelagic young and the eggs, and to observe carefully three chosen flatfish grounds.

The work in the laboratory has been along lines followed for some time past. The correlation between the temperature, or weather, and the catch of albacore has been carefully analyzed for the year 1915, and a very high degree found. It will be remembered that some work has also been published for the year 1916—for instance in the PACIFIC FISHERMAN for June, 1918, and in a previous number of "CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME." The data for 1917 is now undergoing a similar analysis. The work on the natural history of the albacore is also steadily progressing along other lines, but until the observations to be made this summer are complete, it is not likely that a final report will be made. A preliminary report on several subjects will probably be made soon. In regard to the sardine it may be mentioned that examinations have been made of the state of maturity at various times, and the progress observed to be the same as was carefully followed last year.

Our thanks are due the Zoology Department of Stanford University for the privilege of using the library and collection of fishes belonging to that institution, and more particularly to Dr. C. H. Gilbert for his personal advice and assistance to Mr. Higgins during his recent visit there.

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CONSERVATION IN OTHER STATES.

WARDENS DO DETECTIVE WORK IN NEW YORK.

The New York Conservation Commission has been detailing game protectors upon secret service work in the Adirondacks. They operate under concealed identity, in the manner of detectives, in every branch of police activity. The work that they did and the results accomplished are believed to be more extensive than in any similar task ever before undertaken in the cause of game protection. The reports turned in by these men gave the Conservation Commission the necessary knowledge and power, for the first time in the history of game protection in New York State, to deal adequately with the condition of lawlessness in the deer forests.

ILLINOIS SPORTSMEN DISSATISFIED.

The *Illinois Sportsman*, the official organ of the Illinois Sportmen's League, continues to rap the migratory bird law and accuse the Biological Survey of unfair treatment to the sportsmen of the Middle West. According to a recent number of the paper the lack of ducks during the past open season is due to the working of the present federal law which does not allow early spring shooting, but does allow, according to this paper, the slaughter of a large number of birds in Texas and in other states. The paper also tries to point out that the dismissal of the appeal to the United States Supreme Court for a decision on the constitutionality of the former migratory bird law leaves the Shauver case the supreme law of the land, and questions the immunity of the treaty over review in the courts. It will be remembered that in the case of the *United States* vs. *Shauver*, Judge Trieber held that migratory game when in the confines of a state belongs to the state and not to the public of the United States.

If the sportsmen of the Middle West are actually receiving unfair treatment, it is high time that their case is investigated; but if, on the other hand, they are working selfishly for their own profit and overlooking the general welfare, agitation of this sort should be frowned upon by every one interested in wild life. We are glad that California has so loyally defended the new law which apparently is doing wonders for the preservation of our waterfowl.

WASHINGTON COMMISSION MAINTAINS PERMANENT EXHIBIT.

The Washington Fish and Game Commission maintains a permanent exhibit in the city of Seattle. Aquaria containing many varieties of fish, models of fish ladders, fish screens, preserved specimens of many varieties of fish and shellfish, and an exhibit of fish products form the larger part of the exhibit. Some mounted elk and game birds display the game resources of the state. The offices of the commission are in the same building, and the hundreds of visitors find it easy to have their questions answered.

WASHINGTON WILL OPEN THE SEASON ON ELK.

Of the seven or eight thousand elk on the Olympic Peninsula in the state of Washington, nearly 50 per cent are bulls. In order to reduce this number an open season during the month of November has been recommended to the legislature. Nonresident hunters will be required to hire licensed guides at $5.00 a day, and the license fee will be $25.00 or $50.00. In order that only a limited kill may be made only one animal will be allowed each individual and all the meat must be utilized.

VERMONT PLANS QUARTERLY BULLETIN.

According to their last biennial report the Department of Fisheries and Game of Vermont advocates the publication of a semiannual or quarterly bulletin for circulation among the members of sportsmen's leagues, and others interested throughout the state. This bulletin should give items of interest from the work of the department, and from the wider field of interstate and international activities, in this way moulding and directing public sentiment along the most progressive lines.

Vermont in starting such a bulletin will be following the lead of California and other states which several years ago became convinced of the desirability of such a means of publicity and education.

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LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

ELK IN SHASTA COUNTY.

John M. Punnett, a civil engineer of San Francisco, who has recently returned from the Pit River, Shasta County, where he has been in camp with a survey party, reports that in the latter part of November, 1918, a small herd of elk were seen on the mountain side on the north bank of the Pit River. They were observed by all the members of the party consisting of five men. Owing to the speed at which the herd was traveling, the distance between it and the observers and the steep, wooded, brushy character of the country it was impossible to be absolutely certain of the number of animals, but the concensus of opinion was that the herd consisted of one bull and either four or five cows.

Some cattle men who were driving stock out of that part of the country stated that during the past year or so they had repeatedly seen what was presumably the same herd. There is good evidence that the herd ranges on the southerly slopes of the Brock Mountain, between the summit and the Pit River.—M. HALL MCALLISTER.

DEER HUNTING POOR IN MONO COUNTY.

We have no knowledge of any deer having been killed in Mono County during the 1917 season. The season, as changed by the redistricting of California, gives the residents of this county very little chance to kill a deer during open season. The deer range very high in almost inaccessible localities during the month of September, not working down until the season closes.—W. M. MAULE.

DEER INCREASING IN TRINITY GAME REFUGE.

In the ten years that I have been traveling at different times over the southern and western part of the game refuge (1-D) I have never seen so many deer. The numerous deer tracks rather gave the impression of a band of sheep wintering there. Hunters complained last hunting season that, as soon as the shooting commenced, all the deer knew the refuge and ran over the line and stayed there. I believe there is some truth in this, from my own observations, but not so much as they would have the general public be-

—G. O. LAWS.

GROUSE IN THE SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST.

Sierra grouse are found from the 5,000-foot contour to the 11,000 in the Sequoia National Forest. They nest principally at the lower elevations between May 15 and June 15, laying from 8 to 14 eggs. The average brood hatched is about 10. Until the young are fully feathered they feed on and in the vicinity of small meadows, eating principally grass, seeds, grubs and berries. When the young are able to fly they usually migrate to the higher elevations and live principally in thickets and fir timber. When there they feed principally on berries and fir and pine needles. A peculiar thing about them is that they go to high elevations to winter and evidently live entirely on pine and fir needles.—FRANK P. CUNNINGHAM.

RIVER OTTER PLAYS ON MOONLIGHT NIGHTS.

Lake Leonard, situated in the mountains of Mendocino County at an elevation of about two thousand feet, is a small natural lake with no visible outlet. The past summer on moonlight nights an animal was frequently heard splashing in this lake. Observation between the hours of 2 and 6 a.m. on December 22 disclosed an animal swimming about and playing in the water like a sea lion, suddenly bobbing up, giving huge splashes, playing about a bit, then disappearing entirely for a time. When most boisterous it uttered a sharp little scream or made a noise that sounded like a long-eared dog shaking itself on coming out of the water. It appeared larger than a large dog, and could swim very rapidly. No slides have been noticed along the shore, but the animal's actions left no doubt that it was a Pacific river otter (*Lutra canadensis pacifica*).—UNA BOYLE.

VALLEY QUAIL WITH EGG IN DECEMBER.

When cleaning some valley quail secured near Jolon, Monterey County, December 21, 1918, I was surprised to find a female containing a well developed egg. Unfortunately, the egg was broken in cleaning, but its presence is nevertheless a fact, as can be substantiated by others to whom it was shown. The eggshell was of a yellowish color, and was situated in the oviduct just ready to be deposited.—EDWARD L. BOSQUI.

WILD LIFE IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURE.

BLACKBIRDS AND RICE.

Blackbirds are a serious menace to rice culture, particularly as an agency in the distribution of water grass seeds. While blackbirds in large flocks frequently destroy large areas of rice during the maturing period, they also congregate along the sloughs where the indigenous millets are found, the seeds of which mature some weeks in advance of rice, and of which the blackbirds consume large quantities. When blackbirds arise rapidly from a slough it has been observed that they carry with them heads and seeds which are dropped into the fields over which they pass.—W. O. JACOBSON.

DUCKS DESTROY GARDEN PESTS.

Theodore Kytka, the famous handwriting expert of San Francisco, has for many years successfully reared wild mallard ducks in his back yard. Finding them of value as destroyers of pests he has recently given a number of the birds to friends in order that they may clean the gardens of snails, slugs, and other garden pests.

PHEASANTS DAMAGE CROPS IN INYO COUNTY.

After much observation and many discussions with ranchers in the Owens Valley I am of the opinion, and would earnestly advocate, that either an open season be allowed for the introduced pheasant, or that it be left unprotected entirely. It is becoming a pest here, and the farmers who raise grain or small fruits welcome this bird about the same as they do the English sparrow and California linnet (two great nuisances). I quote one of the ranger's reports: "The pheasants are increasing rapidly in the valley and live on the farmers' crops in the summer time, doing them considerable damage." One of the fruit growers here showed me a few boxes of grapes which he intended to ship, but the bunches had been thinned considerably owing to damage by birds. He stated that the robin and a small gray bird (probably the linnet) did a lot of damage, and that the pheasant was a very wicked bird, hiding under the bushes and eating his grapes whole. One of the ranchers near town tells me that he has seen small patches of corn entirely destroyed by pheasants, the birds eating out the grain just after the plant has sprouted.—E. L. HERZINGER.

MOLE EATS ANGLEWORMS.

The stomach of a mole (*Scapanus latimanus latimanus*) killed on September 23, 1916, at Hayward, California, was filled with angleworms cut into short pieces, one-quarter to one-half inch in length. This evidence, combined with the fact that moles kept in captivity devour large quantities of earthworms, indicates that this animal feeds largely upon worms and insects found beneath the surface of the ground.—W. N. DIRKS.

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REPORTS.

California Fishery Products Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries—October, November, December, 1918.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Alameda, Contra Costa	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexico
Albacore								39	5,084		24,982		374		30,479	
Anchovy							5,003		172,788		18,633				196,424	
Barracuda							4,642	7,628	33,476	16,553	292,712		230,949		585,960	410,632
Bonita								180	2,077	2,806	159,866		547,327		712,258	170,018
Bocaccio							2,189	9,966	291,667						303,824	
Blue fish									10,076		185				10,261	
Chilip pper									46,284						46,284	
Carp				1,946	20,601	13,246	2,420								38,303	
Catfish		5,444		3,258	1,519	1,323									11,544	
Croakers											6,967		371		7,338	
Coalfish							150		258		24				432	
Cultus cod	212						41,204	8,763	121,415			457			172,051	
Dolphin											21				21	
Dogfish			3,150			8	68,003	500	4,205		2,966		9,272		86,104	
Flounder			242				43,499	11,863	2,428		1,290		150		59,492	
Halibut	1,193						4,063	4,049	2,798	143,173	146,244	4,210	20,510		326,230	139,234
Hardh ads					3,052	9,704									12,756	
Hake							25,819	23,450	1,775		7,205		3,062		64,311	4,247
Herring	2,709		184,992				56,550				190				244,441	
Kingfish							17,264	22,750	4,632	159	243,997	39	1,755		290,596	
Mackerel								353	264,803	217	133,414	1,573	9,833		410,283	11,551
Marlin											261				261	
Mullet														3,582	3,582	1,745
Pike				63	10	2,468									2,541	
Pompano			3				277	66	5,068		2,923				8,337	
Perch	2,676		15,505			90	23,441	4,445	2,147	803	15,876		570		65,556	365
Rock Bass										2,059	181,012	825	18,187		202,083	4,129
Rockfish	926		150				403,850	103,620	84,965	13,442	194,859	8,274	314,293		1,123,899	7,802
Sole							1,006,353	172,414	42,332	30,434	7,700	25	1,745		1,261,003	
Salmon	720,994		1,069	10,978	6,524	12,278	22	15	54						751,934	
Smelt	8,459		4,318			95	11,939	15,983	6,071	8,589	110,440	72,652	12,959		251,484	7,991
Sea bass (white)			10,897				11,641	69,823	11,389	4,030	154,419		10,706		272,892	70
Sea bass (black)									248	961	41,503	249	17,406		60,366	32,566
Handdabe							172,721	30,777	542		1,472	25			205,537	
Suckers					1,156	260									1,416	

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Striped bass			159	46,133	20,989	168,727	1,096						232,004		
Buck shad															
Shad				1,588	1,574	2,765	47						5,974		
Roe shad															
Skip jack							728	155		885,345	133	426	896,787		
Sturgeon															
Sardine							506,400	449,725	22,885,726		8,341,757	735,434	32,962,042		
Skate							45,011				437		45,448		
Surf fish											943		943		
Sculpin								2			9,390		9,392		
Sea trout											4,350	941	12	5,303	
Sheepshead									45		7,129		11,467	18,641	3 0
Sword fish											1,000		580	1,580	
Tom cod							2,943				15,507	60		18,510	
Trout (farm)															
Trout (steelhead)	14,055													14,055	
Tuna								568	165	1,162,611		247,751		1,411,095	
Turbot			2,333											2,333	
Whitebait			692				937	81						1,710	
Yellowtail							10,058	64,712	5,276	2,898,906	1,060	1,378 879		4,358,891	94,188
Miscellaneous							23,097	21	19,858	13,374	39,424	3,175	8,833	110,782	124,803
Totals	751,193	5,444	223,500	63,996	55,515	205,964	2,483,571	950,238	24,067,795	242,083	15,115,480	93,637	3,632,847	3,582	47,914,878	1,009,493
Crustaceans —															
Crab (doz.)	634					13	7,886	7						8,548	
Spiny lobster										15,303	112.970	1,082	21,815	151,173	205,272
Shrimp							150,119							150,119	
Ecrevisse															
Mollusks —															
Squid															
Cuttlefish							137	83	1,611		249			2,080	
Clam (Pismo)								185		73,268				73,453	
Clam (cockle)			4,403								1,595			5,998	
Clam (softshell)		257	28,765			57,055								86,077	
Clam (mixed)	8,086		3,565							1,323	4,197			17,171	
Oyster (native), No.			94,200											94,200	
*Oyster (shell), No.			312,293				2,149,575							2,461,868	
Abalones		135							44,229	56,877	50,730			151,971	
Sea snails											355			355	
Mussels						773	513			3,044	1,869			6,199	
Reptiles															
Terrapin				2										2	

*Eastern.

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—Year 1918.

Item of expense	October	November	December
General administration	$1,628 14	$1,650 12	$1,728 47
Research, publicity and education (game)	219 46	210 00	237 53
Printing		424 20	
Fish exhibits			
Game exhibits			
Game farm	348 20	84 06	
Mountain lion bounties	320 00	210 09	530 00
Lithographing hunting licenses	110 48		
Lithographing angling licenses			950 00
Hunting license commissions	2,806 60	833 90	2,170 10
Angling license commissions	1,115 10	1,328 00	1,585 80
Market fishing license commissions	1 50	77 00	37 50
	$3,549 48	$4,823 28	$7,278 70
San Francisco District	$5,986 92	$5,760 10	$5,769 16
Sacramento District	3,849 58	3,932 43	3,948 54
Los Angeles District	2,404 05	2,289 21	2,354 22
Launch patrol	1,143 58	1,310 64	2,284 38
Prosecutions (fish and game)	42 60	107 75	100 00
Crawfish inspection	248 39	200 60	200 00
Winter game feeding			
Accident and death claims	124 04	155 05	124 04
	$13,802 16	$13,755 18	$14,780 31
Hatchery administration	$878 70	$968 24	$743 99
Mt. Shasta Hatchery	8,531 26	2,844 33	2,340 28
Klamath Station	1,429 37	1,397 59	824 05
Mt. Whitney Hatchery	2,095 37	1,090 77	957 77
Cottonwood Lakes Station			
Tahoe Hatchery	222 47	16 85	5 00
Tallac Hatchery	23 17	5 00	7 64
Ft. Seward Hatchery			142 53
Eel River Station	622 65	456 38	443 07
Ukiah Hatchery	14 30		
Snow Mountain Station			
Brookdale Hatchery	92 40	122 15	241 61
Scott Creek Station	31 00	30 00	31 00
Feather River Hatchery			
Almanor Hatchery		10 00	5 00
Domingo Springs Hatchery	81 84		
Clear Creek Hatchery	458 59	38 93	
Bear Lake Hatchery	298 59	300 50	88 82
North Creek Station		721 90	252 19
Wawona Hatchery			
Yosemite Hatchery		120 55	400 91
Fish distribution			
Fish transportation	3 00	3 00	3 00
Screen, fishway and water pollution	211 13	191 87	249 57
Special field investigation			
	$15,057 74	$8,227 03	$6,845 70
Department Commercial Fisheries	2,663 02	3,140 15	2,735 93
	$38,072 40	$23,948 67	$31,540 67
Department of Engineering—			
Launch "Albacore"			
Yosemite Hatchery			

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

December 1, 1918, to March 1, 1919.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without a license	27	$495 00
Making false statement on application	1	25 00
Deer—close season—killing or possession	11	335 00
Female deer, spike bucks, fawns—killing or possession	5	100 00
Quail—close season—killing or possession		
Excess bag limit	1	25 00
Ducks—close season—killing or possession	2	90 00
Excess bag limit	2	75 00
Shooting ducks from power boat in motion	4	110 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season—killing or possession	1	50 00
Grouse—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Rail—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Swan—killing or possession	4	75 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	22	456 00
Shore birds—close season—killing or possession	3	75 00
Night shooting	14	250 00
Trespassing on posted grounds	2	40 00
Trapping without license	2	40 00
Total game violations	103	$2,291 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	5	$95 00
Fishing for profit without license	3	50 00
Clams—undersize	3	75 00
Abalones—close season—undersize, excess limit	34	325 00
Spiny lobsters—close season—taking or possession		
Undersize, oversize	6	140 00
Trout—close season—taking or possession, excess limit	6	180 00
Trout—taking other than by hook and line	3	25 00
Dynamiting fish	1	200 00
Failure to produce license on demand	1	
	62	$1,090 00
Grand total fish and game violations	165	$3,381 00

SEIZURES—FISH AND GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

December 1, 1918, to March 1, 1919.

Game.		
Deer meat	219	pounds
Ducks	476	
Shore birds	17	
Wild pheasants	2	
Miscellaneous game	20	
Beaver skins	4	
Mink skins	3	
Fish.		
Striped bass	58	pounds
Trout	1,825	pounds
Crabs	12	
Pismo clams	100	
Lobsters	1,311	
Abalones	691	
Halibut	2,693	
Illegal nets	1	
Searches.		
Illegal fish and game	9	

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NUMBER OF DEER KILLED IN VARIOUS COUNTIES DURING THE OPEN SEASON 1917.

District No. 1.

Alpine	12
Amador	50
Butte	---
Calaveras	66
Del Norte	---
El Dorado	60
Fresno	125
Humboldt	36
Inyo	72
Kern	---
Kings	---
Lassen	150
Madera	---
Mariposa	---
Merced	23
Modoc	164
Mono	36
Nevada	150
Placer	36
Plumas	200
Sacramento	51
San Joaquin	---
Shasta	330
Sierra	---
Siskiyou	118
Stanislaus	---
Sutter	---
Tehama	253
Trinity	500
Tulare	300
Tuolumne	250
Yuba	---
Total	3,012

District No. 2.

Colusa	150
Glenn	221
Lake	423
Marin	162
Mendocino	140
Solano	140
Sonoma	---
Yolo	---
Napa	116
Total	1,352

District No. 3.

Alameda	---
Contra Costa	---
Monterey	155
San Benito	121
San Francisco	---
San Luis Obispo	342
San Mateo	150
Santa Clara	300
Santa Cruz	69
Total	1,137

District No. 4.

Imperial	---
Los Angeles	208
Orange	---
Riverside	52
San Diego	30
San Bernardino	95
Santa Barbara	425
Ventura	438
Total	1,248
Miscellaneous	105
Total for year 1917	6,854

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GOLDEN TROUT OF VOLCANO CREEK, SALMO ROOSEVELTI EVERMANN
(DRAWN FROM LIFE BY CHARLES B. HUDSON FROM THE
TYPE, A SPECIMEN 11½ INCHES LONG.)

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 5 SACRAMENTO, JULY, 1919 Number 3

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CALIFORNIA TROUT.*

By BARTON WARREN EVERMANN and HAROLD C. BRYANT.

INTRODUCTION.

The trout of whatever kind all belong to the Salmonidæ or salmon family. Besides the true trout, this family contains also the salmons, the charrs, the whitefish, the lake herrings, and that curious fish of the far north, the inconnu. The Salmonidæ are confined to the northern hemisphere and chiefly north of the fortieth parallel where they are nearly everywhere abundant wherever suitable waters are found. Some of the species, especially the larger ones, are marine and anadromous, living and growing in the sea, and entering fresh waters only for spawning purposes; still others live in running brooks, entering lakes or the sea as occasion serves, but not habitually doing so; still

*Although containing some new information, this paper is largely a compilation of material from published sources.

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others are lake fishes, approaching the shores or entering brooks in the spawning season, at other times retiring to waters of considerable depths. Some species are active, voracious, and gamey, while others are comparatively defenseless and rarely or never take the hook.

Of all the families of fishes there is none more interesting than the Salmonidæ, from whatever point of view they may be considered. To the biologist the family is of surpassing interest because of the remarkable life histories and habits of many of the species; to the angler, what fish has appealed more strongly than salmon and trout because of their game qualities and their beauty? to the epicure, there is none more delicious or more persistently sought; to the lover of the beautiful as exhibited in animate forms, what appeals more strongly than the silvery sheen, roseate or golden hues, and the beautiful form of the salmon, the brook trout or the golden trout; to the fish culturist, the Salmonidæ are of the greatest interest and importance, more species of this family being propagated artificially than of all other species combined; and to the commercial fisherman, this family of fishes is the most important in all the world.

The true trout all belong to the genus *Salmo* and are found only in the northern parts of Asia, Europe and North America; in Europe they extend as far south as the Pyrenees, and in America to Lower California and Durango and eastward as far as the Black Hills and Colorado.

The name "trout," a word of French origin, is in Europe applied only to species with black spots, while in America it is more loosely used and is applied not only to the true trout (those with black spots), but also to the charrs (or those with red or orange spots). In western North America are many species of true trout, some of them differing widely in size and color, while others resemble each other so closely as to make positive identification difficult. The Salmonidæ are of comparatively recent origin, none of the species occurring as fossils except in recent deposits, and this doubtless accounts for the instability of their specific characters.

How to Distinguish Trout from Salmon.

Trout.	Salmon.
1. Most species remain in fresh water, never going to sea; do not die after once spawning.	1. Live habitually in the sea, entering fresh water only at spawning time; spawn once then die.
2. Skeleton hard.	2. Skeleton porous and soft.
3. Anal fin with 12 or fewer rays.	3. Anal fin with 13 to 20 rays.
4. Gillrakers, 20 or fewer.	4. Gillrakers, 20 to 40.
5. Pyloric cæca few, 40 to 65.	5. Pyloric cæca numerous, 75 to 180.
6. Branchiostegals, 10 to 12.	6. Branchiostegals, 13 to 19
7. Caudal peduncle deep.	7. Caudal peduncle constricted.

The commercial fisherman distinguishes between salmon and trout by noting whether the fish is easily held up by the tail. The constricted portion in front of the tail (caudal peduncle) makes it easy to hold a salmon by the tail, but that of a trout is so nearly the size of the tail fin that it is held up with difficulty.

The native trout of western North America may be regarded as falling naturally into three more or less well-defined series, which are popularly

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known as the Cutthroat Series, the Steelhead Series, and the Rainbow Series.

The species of the Cutthroat Series are characterized by small scales, 150 to 200 in a cross-series, a large deep-red or scarlet dash on each side of the throat, a large mouth, the maxillary more than half length of head, and small hyoid teeth. The most useful diagnostic character is the red dash or mark on each side of the throat between the dentary bones of the lower jaw. This mark is nearly always present and is usually quite distinct.

There are many species of the Cutthroat Series. They inhabit the streams and lakes from Humboldt County, California, northward to southeast Alaska and eastward through all of the northwestern states to the headwaters of the Missouri, the Platte, the Arkansas and the Rio Grande. At least one species is found in the headwaters of the Colorado. They are particularly abundant in the coastal streams and lakes of Oregon and Washington. In California, they appear to be confined chiefly to the northwest counties and are nowhere abundant.

In the Steelhead Series the scales are somewhat larger, the number in a cross-series being usually about 150, but varying from 130 to 180. There is no red dash on the lower jaw; the body is rather stout, mouth moderate, the maxillary about half length of head, hyoid teeth wanting. Color silvery. Size large. Sea-run species.

In California, the steelhead is limited to coastwise streams and is anadromous. To the northward, it extends further inland, ascending the Columbia and its tributaries to Shoshone Falls in Snake River and to the headwaters of Salmon River in Idaho. To the northward it is found as far as Kodiak Island. In certain lakes of Washington and British Columbia are found several local forms which have been described as distinct species.

In the Rainbow Series the scales are typically still larger (except in the golden trouts), the number in a cross-series being normally 130, but varying from 115 to 180; usually no red on the throat; a red or rosy lateral band; body stout; mouth small, the maxillary short, 2 to 2.5 in head; no hyoid teeth. Size small.

The rainbow forms are chiefly confined to the streams of California and Oregon. The typical rainbow (*Salmo irideus*) was originally described by Dr. William P. Gibbons of San Francisco in the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences for 1855, from specimens obtained in San Leandro Creek, Alameda County. The rainbow occurs less abundantly in Oregon and Washington and as far north as Naha Stream and Klawak River, Alaska.

Besides these three series of true trouts, we have the charrs of the genera *Salvelinus* and *Cristivomer*. The "Dolly Varden" is the only native charr in California. The introduced Eastern brook trout is a near relative, and is, like it, a charr. The charrs are separated from the true trout by the presence of red or orange-colored spots on the sides. The word "charr" means "red" or "blood," and since members of the genus *Salvelinus* are usually marked with red spots or are red beneath, the group is well named.

In addition to the native trout, there are several species which have been introduced into California streams from Europe. Chief among these are the brown trout from central Europe and the Loch Leven trout from Scotland.

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Cutthroat Series.

The native lake trout in the larger lakes of the Sierras and one of the stream trouts of northern and northwestern California are cutthroats. The species now recognized are:

Cutthroat Trout (*Salmo clarkii*), in Pit River, Eel River and other streams in Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

Tahoe Trout (*Salmo henshawi*), in Lake Tahoe, Donner, Webber, and Independence lakes and tributary streams. Included under this name are several trout which have been described as distinct species.

Royal Silver Trout (*Salmo regalis*), in Lake Tahoe.

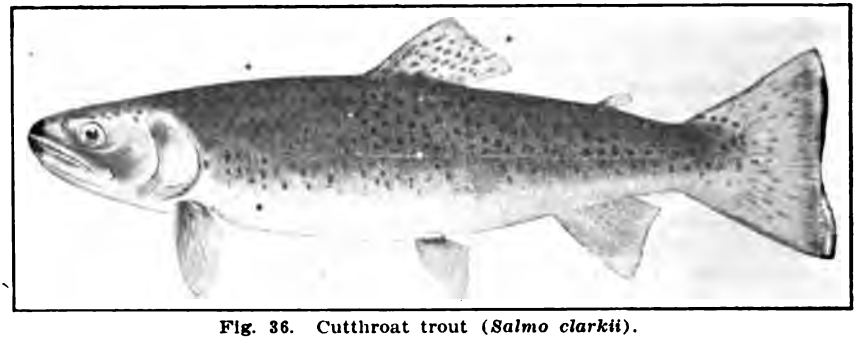

Fig. 36. Cutthroat trout (*Salmo clarkii*).

Charrs.

The Dolly Varden (*Salvelinus parkei*) is the only charr native to California streams. Its distribution in this state is limited to the McCloud River. The introduced Eastern brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) and the Mackinaw Trout (*Cristivomer namaycush*) are the only other charrs found here.

Rainbow Series.

Most of the native trout found in California belong to this series. The following eight species are here recognized as belonging to the Rainbow Series.

Shasta Rainbow (*Salmo shasta*), in the upper Sacramento and McCloud rivers.

Noshee or **Stone Trout** (*Salmo stonei*), in the McCloud River.

Gilbert Rainbow (*Salmo gilberti*), in the Kings and Kern rivers.

South Fork of Kern Golden Trout (*Salmo agua-bonita*), native only to the South Fork of the Kern, and from Cottonwood Creek and the Cottonwood Lakes into which it has been introduced.

Golden Trout or **Roosevelt Trout** (*Salmo roosevelti*), native only to Volcano Creek.

Soda Creek or **Little Kern Trout** (*Salmo whitei*), native to the Little Kern and other western tributaries of Kern River.

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San Gorgonio Trout (*Salmo evermanni*), known only from the streams about San Gorgonio Peak, southern California.

Nelson Trout (*Salmo nelsoni*), known only from the San Pedro Martir Mountains of Lower California.

There is a trout, apparently of the Rainbow Series, in the Klamath River which fish culturists believe to be different from any of the above, which has not yet been described. There is still another in Burney Creek, Shasta County, which also remains to be described.

Introduced Trout.

As a result of hatchery operations the following non-native trouts are to be found in California streams:

Brown Trout (*Salmo fario*), a native of central Europe.

Loch Leven Trout (*Salmo trutta levenensis*), a native of Scotland.

Eastern Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), a native of the Atlantic Coast streams.

Mackinaw Trout (*Cristovomer namaycush*), a native of the larger lakes of the northeastern United States and Canada.

Size and Coloration.

Size seems to depend upon food supply and extent of water. Residents of small mountain streams and pools seldom attain the size of individuals inhabiting lakes or rivers where there is an abundant food supply.

Water appears to have some influence on the coloration of trout. Brackish or salt water usually gives them a silvery color with few or no spots. Possibly the substrata constitute the factor most involved in coloration. Profusely spotted trout are generally found in clear rapid rivers or alpine pools; in large lakes with a peaty bottom, fish often assume an almost uniform blackish coloration.

Sexual differences are not always apparent in trout except in the breeding season, at which time the female is usually a deeper, heavier fish and the male a more slender one. However, the male is sometimes the brighter in color.

Young trout are all similarly barred with the parr-marks and are difficult to identify.

Trout Angling.

The usual style of fly fishing consists in wading the stream and making casts downstream in likely places—at the foot of riffles, at the edges of stumps, logs and brush, and beneath overhanging bushes and banks. On the contrary, the more refined, dry-fly angler casts upstream, presenting his fly in such a manner that it will float over a rising fish. In order to have the flies float, they must be dry. They are oiled before using, and false casts are made between real casts to remove the surplus moisture.

Some fishermen drag the flies over the water at the end of each cast, believing that the motion resembles that of an insect endeavoring

to escape from the water. Sometimes flies are tied with head toward the hook-barb so that, on being drawn over the water, the resistance of their legs and wings will cause them to flutter as if alive.

The dry-fly angler declares that the more attractive method is to allow the flies to float quietly, and to enable them to remain on the surface. Usually local dealers can supply the best information on the proper flies to use.

When streams are high, better results are obtained by the use of baits such as prepared salmon eggs or grasshoppers, earthworms and helgramites. In clearer water spinners may also be used with good effect.

Fig. 37. Tahoe trout (*Salmo henshawi*).

Trolling is the method usually employed by fishermen and anglers in catching trout in the larger lakes. Similar equipment is used by anglers in taking the so-called steelhead at river mouths. But these methods are not practiced by the accomplished angler.

"Along the lower courses of the rivers and on the lakes, especially off rocky points where the rapidly shelving bottom brings the deep water near shore, a crude method of bait casting is successfully employed in taking large trout. The large trout seldom rise to the artificial fly except at times in the high Sierras. The same species when living in the rivers and in their rapid and cool tributaries furnish excellent sport for the angler. All recommend small flies, 12 to 16, and not in great variety. Many of the smaller streams are so closely lined with dense brush as to make fly fishing quite out of the question. Here the angler should provide himself with a short bait rod, use worms and grasshoppers."—*Snyder.*

As has been pointed out in many an article, the prime rules of fly fishing are:

1. Fish in streams where trout are found. Those streams not easily accessible are always best, for they are not depleted.
2. Move cautiously and noiselessly in order not to frighten the fish.
3. Drop the fly on the water "as if it hated to get wet" or, in other words, simulate the natural dropping of an insect on the water.

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KEY TO CALIFORNIA SPECIES OF TROUT.

a. Species anadromous, entering coastal streams for spawning purposes; color silvery;

aa. Species not anadromous; size smaller.
size large---------- **Steelhead** (Salmo gairdneri). Page 112

b. Scales typically large (except in the Golden trouts), about 130 in a cross-series (varying from 120 to 180); little or no red on throat; usually a rosy or yellowish lateral band; mouth small, maxillary 2 to 2.5 in head; no hyoid teeth; size small.

c. No extensive lemon yellow on sides below lateral line.

d. Body elongate; color rosy or silvery, especially on side; spots small----- ---------- **Rainbow Trout** (Salmo irideus). Page 112

dd. Body rather deep.

e. A reddish lateral band.

f. Black spots largely restricted to the back, few below median line.

g. Vomerine teeth in a single zig-zag series---------- ---------- **McCloud River Trout** (Salmo shasta). Page 115

gg. Vomerine teeth in two irregular series---------- ---------- **Noshee Trout** (Salmo stonei). Page 116

ff. Entire body and all fins profusely black-spotted---------- ---------- **Kern River Trout** (Salmo gilberti). Page 118

fff. Heavily and uniformly spotted; fawn brown on sides---------- ---------- San Gorgonio Trout (Salmo evermanni). Page 117

ee. A greenish lateral band---------- ---------- **Eagle Lake Trout** (Salmo aquilarum). Page 116

cc. Extensive lemon yellow or orange on sides and belly.

h. Back and upper two-thirds of sides covered rather closely with small black spots; lower third of side, except on caudal peduncle, without spots---------- **Golden Trout of the Little Kern, or Soda Creek Trout** (Salmo whitei). Page 121

hh. Back and upper one-third of side sparsely black spotted; lower two-thirds of side, except on caudal peduncle, entirely without spots ---------- **Golden Trout South Fork of Kern** (Salmo agua-bonita). Page 123

hhh. Back, head, and entire side, except on caudal peduncle, entirely without spots; a few spots on the caudal peduncle---------- ---------- **Roosevelt Trout** (Salmo roosevelti). Page 124

bb. Scales small, usually about 150-200 in crosswise series; red marks under dentary bones always present; mouth large, the maxillary 1.6 to 2.25 in head; hyoid teeth present; irregularly and profusely scattered.

i. Black spots encroaching somewhat on belly---------- ---------- **Cutthroat Trout** (Salmo clarkii). Page 127

ii. Black spots sparsely scattered---------- ---------- **Tahoe Trout** (Salmo henshawi). Page 127

iii. No black spots; back bluish or greenish---------- ---------- **Royal Silver Trout** (Salmo regalis). Page 129

bbb. Scales so small as to be almost invisible, 200-250 in lateral series; no red on throat.

j. Sides with red spots.

k. Back unspotted, strongly marbled with dark olive or black ---------- **Eastern Brook Trout** (Salvelinus fontinalis). Page 130

kk. Back not marbled with olive or black; but spotted with red or orange---------- -----**Dolly Varden Trout** (Salvelinus parkei). Page 129

jj. Back and sides with gray spots---------- -----**Mackinaw Trout** (Cristivomer namaycush). Page 133

bbbb. Scales very large, 118-130 in lateral series; introduced species.

l. Adipose fin large, its width much more than half its length---------- **Brown Trout** (Salmo fario). Page 131

ll. Adipose fin small, its width one-half its length------- **Loch Leven Trout** (Salmo trutta levenensis). Page 132

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NATIVE SPECIES.

Steelhead Series.

STEELHEAD.

Salmo gairdneri Richardson.

Other names: Steelhead Trout; Steelhead Salmon; Salmon Trout; Hardhead.

Description: Head in length to base of tail fin 4.5 to 5; depth 4.5; eye 4.5 in head; dorsal 11; anal 11 or 12; branchiostegals 11 or 12; scales usually about 30-150-28, the cross-series varying from 130 to 180; pyloric cæca 42; gill-rakers, 8+12; vertebræ 38+20. Body rather stout, the caudal peduncle thick; head rather short and slender, only about twice length of maxillary; eye small; teeth small, those on vomer in two long, alternating series which are about as long as the palatine series; no hyoid teeth. Tail wide, squarely truncate in the adult, emarginate in the young. Color olive-green above, silvery on sides and belly; head, back, and dorsal and caudal fins more or less closely covered with small black spots. During the breeding season, side with a broad rosy or flesh-colored lateral band, deep rosy on the cheek, this often remaining through the year; fins not red; no red on lower jaw.

Marks for field identification: Large size; small head; large scales; bright silvery color; absence of red on lower jaw.

Distribution in California: The steelhead enters coastwise streams from Ventura River northward, ascending to their headwaters for spawning purposes and then returning to the sea.

The steelhead is more or less anadromous in its habits, it being migratory like the salmon, spending much of its time in salt water, and ascending freshwater streams at spawning time. It enters practically all the coastal streams of California from Ventura County on the south to the Oregon line; also from there to Skagway and Sitka. Many of the streams on the California coast are famous for their steelhead; special mention may be made of Ventura River, the Santa Ynez, Santa Maria, those entering Monterey Bay, and all the streams north of San Francisco, particularly the Russian, the Klamath, and the Eel.

As a game fish the steelhead is a favorite with the anglers. Its game qualities, together with its large size, make this one of the fishes most sought after by the followers of good old Isaak Walton. When in fresh water it will not only take the trolling spoon, but it will rise readily to the fly.

The steelhead is an excellent food fish, and its large size and abundance make it a fish of considerable commercial value. It is an important fish in the fish cultural operations of California and of other Pacific Coast states and the federal government. It has been introduced into Lake Superior and is now an abundant and much prized game fish in that lake and its tributary streams.

The fact that most ichthyologists and many anglers regard steelheads simply as sea-run individuals of rainbow trout has not escaped our minds, and we ourselves are inclined to accept that view. Nevertheless we know that in some places, they are entirely distinct and easily distinguishable. At any rate, we deem it best for our present purposes to treat the steelhead as a distinct species.

RAINBOW TROUT.

Salmo irideus Gibbons.

Other names: Mountain Trout; Speckled Trout; Brook Trout; California Trout. Sea-run form: Steelhead; Steelhead Salmon; Salmon Trout; *Salmo rivularis*, in part; *Salmo gairdneri*, in part.

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—From drawing by Charles Bradford Hudson

STEELHEAD TROUT (*Salmo irideus, a sea-run form*)

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Description: Head 3.8; depth about 4; eye 4.83 in head, 1.4 in snout; snout 3.6; D. 10; A. 11; scales 24-130-20, about 70 series in front of dorsal, counting along median line, or 60 if rows along upper side are counted; branchiostegals 11; gillrakers 8+13, rather long and slender. Head pointed, mouth, rather large, maxillary extending to posterior margin of eye, 1.8 in head, with about 20 teeth; preorbital very narrow, the maxillary almost touching the orbit; several large teeth along side of tongue; no hyoid teeth; teeth on vomer in zig-zag series; origin of dorsal at middle of length; origin of anal midway between that of dorsal and base of caudal; caudal broad, nearly truncate. Color, on the back a deep dark-blue ultramarine of a peculiar transparency, dotted with small round black spots about the size of a pin head; side abruptly brighter, with many scales silvery; lower parts white; sides, top of head, dorsal, and caudal fins covered with very small spots; pectorals and ventrals nearly colorless, without spots; adipose fin with two spots; no red on lower jaw.

Marks for field identification: Rainbow trout usually have a great many spots, which are more or less obscured by a silvery sheen in the sea-run examples. Average specimens are from 4 to 12 inches in length and weigh as much as 6 or 7 pounds, but average 3 or 4. Sea-run examples sometimes weigh 25 pounds. From the cutthroat trout the rainbow may be known by its larger scales, brighter coloration, and by the absence of red on the throat. The comparatively large scales (120-150) distinguish the true rainbow from the species found in the McCloud and Kern rivers.

Distribution: Native in all coastal streams and most streams of the interior, especially those of the western slope of the Sierras. Introduced in many lakes and streams of the state formerly barren of fish life.

The rainbow runs upstream in early spring to spawn, leaping over waterfalls and entering the small streams forming the headwaters. Here the eggs are deposited in the sand and the young are hatched out.

Fig. 38. Young steelhead trout. All young trout have black bars on the sides, which are known as parr marks.

By far the largest output of the state hatcheries is composed of rainbow trout, and there is good reason, for this is considered the best game fish of all and it is most highly prized by anglers. The rainbow often leaves the water in its eagerness to take a fly. In fact, so readily does it take a fly that there is seldom need to resort to bait or other lures.

This trout has thriven almost everywhere, having been introduced into New Zealand, Japan, Europe, and the eastern United States.

The rainbow varies in coloring according to age, sex, and location. Those individuals which are able to reach the sea spend part of each year there, returning to the freshwater stream a larger and more silvery-colored fish commonly called steelhead. Spawning fish travel far up the coastal streams and spawn high up in the small tributaries. Their habits in this regard are more like those of the salmon than those

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of a trout. Unlike the salmon, however, the steelhead does not as a rule die after once spawning.

Specimens returning from the sea are usually silvery in color, but spotting soon appears in the freshwater stream. Because of its large size and excellent flavor the sea-run form is a splendid food fish. It is marketed in large quantities during the open season; as a game fish prized by anglers who troll in the bays and river mouths along the northern coast.

"In beauty of color, gracefulness of form and movement, sprightliness when in the water, reckless dash with which it springs from the water to meet the descending fly ere it strikes the surface, and the mad and repeated leaps from the water when hooked, the rainbow trout must ever hold a very high rank. The gamest fish we have ever seen was a 16-inch rainbow taken on a fly in a small spring branch tributary of Williamson River in southern Oregon. It was in a broad and deep pool of exceedingly clear water. As the angler from behind a clump of willows made the cast the trout bounded from the water and met the fly in the air a foot or more above the surface; missing it he dropped upon the water only to turn about and strike viciously a second time at the fly just as it touched the surface; though he again missed the fly the hook caught him in the lower jaw from the outside, and then began a fight which would delight the heart of any angler. His first effort was to reach the bottom of the pool, then, doubling upon the line, he made three jumps from the water in quick succession, clearing the surface in each instance from 1 to 4 feet, and every time doing his utmost to free himself from the hook by shaking his head as vigorously as a dog shakes a rat. Then he would rush wildly about in the large pool, now attempting to go down over the riffle below the pool, now trying the opposite direction, and often striving to hide under one or

Fig. 39. Rainbow trout taken in Manzanita Lake, near Red Bluff, Tehama County, California.

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—*From drawing by Charles Bradford Hudson*

RAINBOW TROUT (*Salmo irideus, a stream form*)

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the other of the banks. It was easy to handle the fish when the dash was made up or down stream or for the opposite side, but when he turned about and made a rush for the protection of the overhanging bank upon which the angler stood, it was not easy to keep the line taut. Movements such as these were frequently repeated and two more leaps were made. But finally he was worn out after as honest a fight as trout ever made.

"The rainbow takes the fly so readily that there is no reason for resorting to grasshoppers, salmon eggs, or other bait. It is a fish whose gameness will satisfy the most exacting of expert anglers and whose readiness to take any proper lure will please the most impatient of amateurs." (Evermann.)

Spawning takes place in winter and early spring, varying with temperature and locality. The bulk of the eggs are usually taken in February, March, and April, although spawning continues through May in the mountain districts. The average yield from each female is about 900 eggs. A few of the females spawn when three years old, but about one-half of them begin at four years. The egg is from one-fifth to two-ninths of an inch in diameter; it has a pink color when first taken, becoming darker before hatching. The rainbow feeds on worms, insect larvæ, and salmon eggs. In streams in which the salmon and rainbow exist together, the rainbow is more destructive to the salmon eggs than any other species except the Dolly Varden.

McCLOUD RIVER TROUT.

Salmo shasta Jordan.

Other names: Shasta Trout; Shasta Rainbow. *Salmo gairdneri shasta; Salmo irideus shasta.*

Description: Head 4; depth 3.8; eye 5; D. 11; A. 11; scales 20 to 24-145-20, about 65 before the dorsal. Body comparatively short and deep, compressed, varying considerably, and much more elongate in males than in females; head short, convex, obtusely ridged above; mouth smaller than in most species of trout, the rather broad maxillary scarcely reaching beyond the eye, except in old males; eye large, about one-fifth length of head; vomerine teeth in two irregular series; dorsal fin moderate; caudal fin distinctly though not strongly forked, more deeply incised than in the typical cutthroat. Color, bluish above, the sides silvery; everywhere above profusely but irregularly spotted, the spots extending on the sides at least to the lateral line, and covering the vertical fins; top of head well spotted; fins usually not red; much red or rosy on cheeks and opercles; belly partly red in males; side with a broad but more or less interrupted red lateral band, brightest in males. (Jordan and Evermann.)

Marks for field identification: Differs from other rainbow trout, with the exception of that in the Klamath River, in its larger size, smaller mouth and larger eyes. Scales are intermediate in size between cutthroat and sea-run rainbow (steelhead), about 145 in transverse series. Caudal fin more deeply incised than in typical cutthroat.

Distribution: McCloud River and streams of the Sierras from Mount Shasta southward at least to Calaveras County.

This rainbow lives in water with a comparatively high temperature if it is plentiful and running with a strong current; but in sluggish water, even when the temperature is considerably lower, no species will do well. This species appears to inhabit the rapids more largely than the slow-moving water. The spawning season in California extends from early February to May. Males are good breeders at two years old, but the females rarely produce eggs until the third season. It may lack a little in the wild gaminess of the typical rainbow, but that is

made good by its larger size. It is largely an insect feeder and, therefore, a favorite of the fly fisherman.

This is the rainbow which has been most widely used in fish cultural operations and has been more widely distributed than any other variety.

NOSHEE TROUT.

Salmo stonei Jordan.

Other names: Nissuee Trout; Stone's Trout; Nissui Trout; *Salmo irideus stonei.*

Description: Depth 4; A. 11; eye 4.5; maxillary about 2; pectoral 1.3; scales 140 to 155, about 82 before the dorsal, where they are small and embedded; teeth fewer and smaller than in the Shasta trout, those on the vomer in a single zig-zag series. Color, upper parts plain greenish; spots few and confined chiefly to the posterior part of body; spots small and sparse on dorsal, adipose and caudal fins; a red lateral band usually distinct; cheeks and opercles with red; no red on throat. (Jordan and Evermann)

Marks for field identification: Much larger than typical rainbow, reaching a weight of 10 to 12 pounds; teeth are fewer and smaller than those of typical rainbow.

Distribution: Upper Sacramento Basin, especially in the McCloud River above Baird.

Voracious. Little is known about this trout.

Fig. 40. Trout spawning. The female can be seen at the left digging up the sand preparatory to depositing eggs. The male is shown at the right. Photograph by J. H. Gyger, taken on Orchard Creek, San Bernardino Mountains, April 25, 1916.

EAGLE LAKE TROUT.

Salmo aquilarum Snyder.

Other names: *Salmo clarkii,* in part.

Description: Head 4.2 in length to base of caudal; depth 4.2; depth of caudal peduncle 9.8; eye 7.5 in head; interorbital space 3; snout 3.5; maxillary 1.9; height of dorsal 6.5 in length; adipose fin 12.5; length of caudal 4.8; pectoral 5.6;

ventral 7.5; height of anal 6.9; scales in lateral series 136. Body deep; caudal peduncle robust; head rather pointed; maxillary broad and long, extending far beyond posterior border of eye; edge of opercle 3.8 in head. Branchiostegals 11. Gillrakers 18, rather thick at base, pointed at tips, and decidedly sickle-shaped. Vomerine teeth in three series in front, the middle ones extending backward; teeth of palatines, maxillaries, and mandibles in a single series; glossohyal with teeth; basi-branchials without teeth. Scales large and deeply embedded; pores in lateral line 120; series of scales above lateral line, counting upward and forward to a point just before dorsal, 29. Scales of nape minute and closely crowded as are those of throat and abdomen. Axillary scales of ventral small, equal in length to vertical diameter of eye, sharply pointed. Dorsal rays 11, edge of fine concave; adipose dorsal very large, broad and thick; caudal broad and strong, the posterior edge slightly concave, the lower lobe a little longer than the upper; anal ray 11, edge of fin somewhat concave; pectorals strong and rather pointed; ventrals obtusely pointed.

Marks for field identification: Distinguished from other trouts of the Sierras by the robust body with a deep caudal peduncle and large and strong fins, conspicuous adipose fin, large scales, and the red color of cheeks and coppery red of under parts. The flesh is deep red, very firm and fatty, far superior to that of the Tahoe Trout.

Distribution: Eagle Lake and its tributary, Pine Creek.

The annual spawning migration occurs in May, when apparently the entire trout population of the lake attempts to move up Pine Creek. It is said that anglers do not succeed in catching trout in Eagle Lake, their failure being attributed to either a scarcity of fish or an abundance of food. (Snyder.)

Fig. 41. San Gorgonio trout (*Salmo evermanni*). Found only in the upper Santa Ana River, Mount San Gorgonio, southern California.

SAN GORGONIO TROUT.

Salmo evermanni Jordan & Grinnell.

Other names: Evermann Trout: San Bernardino Rainbow Trout.

Description: Length of type, an adult male (as measured when first caught), 11.62 inches; head measured along side 2.75 inches. Head 3.63 in length to base of caudal, the jaws being somewhat produced; depth of body 4.7; eye 6.5 in head; maxillary 1.75 in head; dorsal with 10 rays, anal with 10; 34 scales between base of dorsal and lateral line, 167 oblique rows crossing lateral line, and 33 scales between lateral line and vent. Snout (from eye) 3.3 in head; anal 2 in head; ventral 2.2 in head; pectoral 1.37 in head; dorsal 1.57 in head. Caudal distinctly emarginate, or lunate. Vomerine teeth in two straight rows; hyoid teeth present, though buried in mucus; Maxillary extending well beyond eye, so that the mouth is relatively large. In the female, the head is shorter and the maxillary 1.8 in head. Coloration, very dark fawn-brown, the spots unusually large and covering the whole length of the body, none of the brilliant hues of *Salmo agua-bonita*, *rooseveltl* or *whitei*, nor even the crimson of *irideus*. Ground fawn-color along sides; varying toward seal brown dorsally; a large patch of same color on cheek; lower parts lighter (fresh tints unknown, but no red in throat region shown in the specimens); black spotting conspicuous, the spots evenly distributed, very large, on sides posteriorly the size of pupil

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or larger, smaller on top of head; 25 on dorsal fin, mostly in four rows; caudal fin nearly as distinctly spotted as sides, with spots more closely set. Younger individuals are somewhat lighter, but yet considerably darker than *irideus* of the same size, and the other characteristics seem to be constant.

Marks for field identification: Differs from the rainbow in small size and slightly different coloration. As compared with *Salmo iridcus*, *Salmo evermanni* is slenderer, especially dorso-ventrally; the head is longer, the snout sharper, and mouth larger; the scales are very much smaller and more numerous, not overlapping; the colors are dull and very dark, and the spotting is heavy.

Distribution: Upper Santa Ana River in the San Bernardino Mountains of southern California.

Habits similar to other rainbows. It is probable that the San Bernardino trout is the older species in the region where found, and owes its preservation as a distinct species, and perhaps the accentuation of its characters, to isolation afforded by the barrier which prevents the invasion of the rainbow trout from the lower stream. In the remote history of the stream, the falls have doubtless shifted and become more effective, so that the ancestral stock of San Gorgonio trout was originally able to ascend to its present remote and limited habitat. (Jordan and Grinnell.)

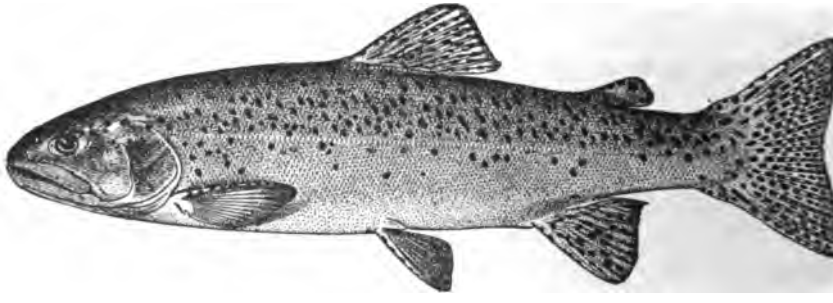

Fig. 42. Eagle Lake trout (*Salmo aquilarum*). Found only in Eagle Lake and tributary streams.

KERN RIVER TROUT.

Salmo gilberti Jordan.

Other names: Gilbert Trout; Kern River Rainbow Trout; *Salmo irideus gilberti.*

Description: Head 4 in length to base of caudal; depth 3.6; eye 5 in head; snout 4.3; maxillary 1.6; mandible 1.3; preorbital 20; scales small, about 165 in lateral line; dorsal fin with 14 rays; anal 12. Body stout, moderately compressed, deepest slightly in front of dorsal; head long, conic, snout pointed; mouth large, maxillary long and narrow, reaching more than an eye's diameter beyond the eye; mandible slightly curved; teeth on lower jaw rather strong, wide-set, in a single series, those on maxillary strongest; caudal peduncle stout, its least depth equal to snout and eye. Fins all well developed; origin of dorsal midway between tip of snout and base of tail, the longest ray nearly two in head, base of fin slightly greater than height; caudal broad, truncate, the lobes equal, exceeding height of dorsal; base of anal equaling height of dorsal; origin of ventrals somewhat posterior to that of dorsal and much nearer base of caudal than tip of snout, longest ventral ray equal to longest dorsal ray; longest pectoral ray exceeding by one-fourth the height of dorsal.

Color in life, head, body, and fins everywhere profusely and rather uniformly covered with small black spots, those on body stellate, those on fins oblong, those on head roundish and more sparse; inner half of ventrals with the anterior rays white at tip; adipose dorsal olivaceous with three or four black spots; side broadly rich rosy red, broadest and brightest near middle, least distinct on caudal peduncle; lower half of side slightly pink and pale bluish; belly with

slight irregular wash of old gold on dirty-white ground color; back and upper part of side olivaceous with fine yellow, orange, or lemon specks; cheeks and opercles rich rosy; little or no red on throat, no dash on membrane between rami of lower jaw; few spots on side of head; top of head olive green, well covered with round black spots.

This description is from an example (male) 18.25 inches long, weighing 3.5 pounds, taken by the senior author July 19, 1904, in Kern River about one-half mile above Kern Lake.

Marks for field identification: Profusely and closely spotted over the entire body, head, and on all the fins, the belly not so richly colored. It is similar to the McCloud River trout, but has smaller scales, about 165 in a transverse series. There is usually a distinct whitish tipping to the dorsal, ventral and anal fins.

Distribution: Kern, and probably Kings, Merced and other rivers of the southern Sierras. This species is abundant in Kern Lake and in the river for some miles below the lake, but of this we have no personal knowledge, as no collecting has been done below the lake. As a rule, the fish taken from the river are more deeply and brightly colored and decidedly more gamey than those from the lake. During the spawning season early in the spring the fish are found chiefly in the river, but after the spawning has been completed they tend to run down into the lake, where they become less active and less highly colored. Large examples from the lake are, as a rule, more slender than those from the river, probably on account of the fact that those from the lake are all spent fish.

The Kern River trout is a beautiful fish, well built and symmetrical, and very rich in coloration when in prime condition. As a game fish it will stand easily among the best, but, as already stated, in the river it greatly excels those of its kind in the lake. It usually takes the fly quite freely, and will, of course, take all sorts of live or cut bait. We have taken these trout "with the artificial fly, with grasshoppers (which they greatly preferred), and with pieces of fish or other meat. The large example from which the colored plate was made was first tried with a gray hackle, to which he rose once and then paid no more attention to it. A larger, plain hook and a good-sized grasshopper were substituted, with better results. Scarcely had the lure touched the water when he rose and struck most viciously, only to miss it, then turn and strike more viciously than before. This time the hook caught inside the mouth just under the middle of maxillary, and then began a fight that would delight a better angler than I. He first circled about in a wide curve, then jumped twice, clearing the water beautifully each time; circled again, went to the bottom in water ten feet deep, came to the surface and jumped again, after which no more leaps were made, but he continued dashing about until finally brought to net." (Evermann.)

THE GOLDEN TROUT OF CALIFORNIA.

The golden trout of California are, so far as known, found only in the headwaters of the Kern River, all in the vicinity of Mount Whitney. To be sure, through the activities of the California Fish and Game Commission and other agencies, their original distribution has been somewhat extended by transplanting.

Four species of trout are now recognized as native to the upper Kern River basin, namely: the Kern River trout or Gilbert trout (*Salmo gilberti*), the Soda Creek or White's golden trout (*Salmo whitei*), the South Fork of Kern golden trout (*Salmo agua-bonita*), and the Roosevelt trout or golden trout of Volcano Creek (*Salmo roosevelti*). All except the Gilbert trout are of the golden trout type.

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All four of these species belong to the Rainbow Series, the species of which as a whole may be distinguished, with greater or less difficulty, from those of the Steelhead Series or sea-run rainbows on the one hand by the usually brighter colors, and on the other hand, from the Cutthroat Series by the absence of a red or scarlet dash on the throat and the entire absence of hyoid teeth.

The three species of golden trout differ as a group from the other recognized species of the Rainbow Series in having decidedly smaller scales and a very brilliant coloration.

When the first trout came to the beautiful streams of the southern High Sierra no one certainly knows; but it must have been long, long ago, as men count time, when melting ice filled the Valley of Death and the terrible deserts of Panamint and Amargosa with sweet waters. Long before that time trout had found their way into the Rio Colorado and when the ice came it was not hard for them to push westward to certain headwaters of the San Joaquin. Among the first to come were some that took up their home in the Great Kern, a wild, strange river, whose sources are among the highest of California's great mountains and whose course for many miles is almost meridional by the compass through a great canyon hundreds of feet deep and marvelous in its stupendous grandeur and beauty. In this river the trout were free to roam about as they liked. Sometimes they would go far down the stream and even out into that wonderful Tulare Lake, then much larger and much colder than it has ever been since. Then in early spring they would go the other way, even entering the tributary streams and penetrating to the little rivulets that trickle from the flanks of the great mountains and the banks of snow that never melt.

The waters in all these streams were clear and cold, and food was abundant. Some of the streams that came in from the east and others from the west already had formed considerable falls in their course above which the trout were not able to go. In some of the tributaries, such barriers were met with in the beginning and those streams are barren of fish to this day. In others, the invasion from the main stream began and was consummated before the falls became impassable, and trout are now found in them, although falls which fishes can not surmount have since been formed in many of them. Among tributary streams of this character which may be mentioned are Soda Creek, Coyote Creek, and the Little Kern on the west and Volcano Creek and South Fork of Kern River on the east. In the first three, the wearing down of the stream-bed and the formation of impassable falls prevented any subsequent invasions from the main river, isolated those colonies of trout which had pushed toward the headwaters, and prevented any further mixing of creek fish with river fish. But in Volcano Creek the conditions were exceptional and complicated. This stream derived its fish originally from Kern River, as did the other streams mentioned; impassable falls subsequently formed and the fish of the creek became shut off from those of the river. Then an unique factor was introduced. A period of volcanic activity ensued, during which the west half of the Toowa Valley was more or less filled with lava, volcanic tufa, and other igneous material, the lower half of Volcano Creek was for a time wiped out of existence, and every living thing in its waters below the tunnel killed. The only fishes of Volcano Creek that escaped this catastrophe were those individuals which had migrated well toward the headwaters

of the stream above the influence of the lava flow. But this creek was permanently shut off from any further invasions of trout from the river; and when its waters again began to flow to the Kern, the falls then formed were even greater barriers than before, and the trout of Volcano Creek became more thoroughly isolated.

The environment of Volcano Creek is very different from that of Kern River; it is that of a small stream, with clean gravelly granite bed in its upper and yellowish or blackish lava and yellowish tufa in its lower course, and with water clear, pure, cold, and turbulent. Contrasted with this is Kern River, a large stream, many yards wide and many feet deep, with current often sluggish and bed of fine sand or mud in many places.

These different environments were sure in time to modify and differentiate the fishes of the two streams. The law of cause and effect applies here as elsewhere in nature, and with equal force; different causes acting upon even the same thing will produce different results.

But geographical isolation (räumliche Sonderung) is the great primary factor in the production of new species. It is the potent agent which holds apart the two groups of individuals, preventing intermingling and confining each to the influences of its own peculiar environment.

In the production of new species in nature, it is not essential that the environments be greatly unlike, or unlike at all, if the groups of individuals being acted upon can be kept from interbreeding.

And thus the trout in Kern River and those in Volcano Creek went on developing, each group in its own way, the two becoming more and more unlike and acquiring structural and other characters by means of which the two forms may be readily distinguished. The trout of Volcano Creek has taken on characters not possessed by the trout of any other stream—very different indeed from those of the Kern River trout. These characters have become fixed, as is evidenced by the fact that they are essentially uniform among all the individuals of this creek. The Volcano Creek trout is therefore a different species from that found in Kern River.

As a result of the formation of impassable falls in the South Fork of the Kern, in the Little Kern, in Coyote Creek, and perhaps still other tributaries of the Kern, other colonies of trout that had invaded the headwaters of these streams became isolated, and in time they also became specifically distinguishable from those of the main Kern and all other streams, so that we now have, as already stated, four distinct species in the Kern River basin. They are the three species of Golden Trout, and the Kern River Trout which is the parent species from which the various species of golden trout have been independently derived.

LITTLE KERN GOLDEN TROUT.

Salmo whitei Evermann.

Other names: Coyote Creek Golden Trout; Soda Creek Golden Trout; White's Golden Trout.

Description: Head 3.22 in length; depth 3.68; eye 4.54 in head; snout 3.33; maxillary 1.72; mandible 1.66; interorbital 3.57; longest dorsal ray 2.08; longest anal ray 2.17; pectoral 1.66; ventral 2.17; caudal lobes 1.61. Body rather stout, moderately compressed; head conic; mouth large, oblique, jaws subequal; maxillary long and slender, reaching much beyond the eye; teeth on jaws,

tongue and palatines well developed; caudal peduncle deep, its least depth about equal to distance from tip of snout to middle of eye. Fins well developed; origin of dorsal somewhat nearer tip of snout than base of caudal fin; insertion of ventral about under middle of dorsal fin. Scales small, but noticeably larger than in the Volcano Creek trout.

Color in life, back and upper part of side light olive; side and back profusely covered with small roundish black spots, these extending on top of head, vertical fins, and on side below lateral line; side with 10 large roundish parr-marks and a broadish median band of light-brick or terra-cotta red; lower part of side light lemon-yellow with a number of bluish-black blotches, chiefly anteriorly, somewhat larger than similar ones on back; belly from tip of lower jaw at anal fin rich orange-red or cadmium, richest between pectoral and ventral fins, this band the full width of the belly; no red dash on throat; suborbital pale rosy or purplish; cheek brassy, with a large dark blotch; opercle rosy orange, olivaceous above; dorsal fin with about five rows of small round black spots and a black border except anteriorly, where the rays are tipped with a light-rosy border; pectoral light yellowish; ventral and anal reddish, with broad white edge; caudal profusely spotted with black like the dorsal fin. In spirits all the bright colors fade, but the black spots remain distinct. These spots are largest on the caudal peduncle, over which they are evenly distributed. They are also pretty evenly distributed over the entire side and top of head; the space along the lateral line, however, has fewer spots. Those below the lateral line extend more than halfway to the belly and are somewhat smaller than those above. About 14 spots show on side of head.

There is not much variation in color, as shown by examination of many examples. In all, the black spots completely cover the caudal peduncle and the entire length of side from median line of back to some distance below the lateral line; the top and sides of the head are always spotted. The middle line of the side and the belly are always richly colored, the parr-marks always present, and the dorsal, anal, and ventral fins bright-edged. No conspicuous red dash was observed on the lower jaw in any of the specimens from South Fork of Kaweah, Soda Creek, or Wet Meadow Creek, but among those from Coyote Creek were some showing considerable color.

Marks for field identification: The presence of small black spots on top of head and all but the lower one-third of the side distinguishes this golden trout from the two other species of golden trout.

Distribution: Soda Creek; Coyote Creek; Wet Meadow Creek; Little Kern River. The headwaters of the South Fork of the Kaweah were originally without trout but were stocked with fish from Soda Creek at Quinn's Horse Camp, and this species may, therefore, very properly be called the Soda Creek Trout.

This fish is known to reach a length of about ten inches. It takes the fly readily, and is a good fighter. Though less brilliant in color than the golden trout of Volcano Creek, it is in every respect a beautiful and attractive fish.

The following interesting account of the trout of the small streams of the High Sierras, by H. W. Henshaw, and written many years ago, applies chiefly to this species:

"This is the common brook trout of the small mountain streams of the Pacific slope, and up to an altitude of 9,000 feet it is the rare exception to find a suitable stream that is not well stocked with it. Upon many of them these trout are found in very great abundance, each pool and rapid numbering its finny denizens by the score. They may be taken in any sort of weather, at any hour of the day, by almost any kind of bait. During the heat of the day they frequent almost entirely the deeper pools, lying under overshadowing rocks or in the shade of some convenient log. In early morning or late afternoon they come out and run more into the shallows and rapids, under which circumstances they bite best and afford the finest sport. Like the average brook trout the species rarely attains any considerable size, ranging from four to eight or more inches in length. The character of the

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bottom and water itself has much to do with color and I remember to have fished in a small rivulet on one of the subalpine meadows not far from Mount Whitney, whose sluggish waters flowed over a bottom of dark mud, in which the color of the trout simulated very closely its hue; they had lost nearly all the flashing irridescent tints characterizing the same species caught but a few hours before in another stream, and had become dull and somber-hued. Accompanying this change of color was a correspondingly noticeable difference in the habits and motions, and the several dozen trout caught that evening for supper were taken out by the hook with the display of very little more gaminess than would be noticed in so many horned pout. On the contrary, in the clear rapid current of the mountain stream, a flash of sunlight is scarcely quicker than the gleam of gold and silver, seen for a single instant, as the whirling waters are cut by one of the trout as he makes a rush from his lurking place for some chance morsel which is being borne past him. The Western trout are rarely as shy as their relatives of Eastern waters, and because of their numbers and consequent scarcity of food are apt to be less fastidious; yet even when most abundant due caution must be used if one would be successful, and not every one can catch trout even in the West. With the proper care in concealing one's self a pool may be almost decimated ere the alarm will be taken, and I have seen fifteen fair sized trout taken from a single small pool in quick succession."

This beautiful trout was named in honor of Stewart Edward White who suggested to President Roosevelt the investigation which resulted in its discovery.

SOUTH FORK OF KERN GOLDEN TROUT.

Salmo agua-bonita Jordan.

Other names: Mount Whitney Golden Trout; Golden Trout; Agua-bonita Golden Trout; *Salmo iridcus agua-bonita.*

Description: Head 3.68 in length; depth 3.85; eye 4.4 in head; snout 4.4; maxillary 2.09; mandible 2.00; interorbital 3.66; longest dorsal ray 2.09; base of dorsal 1.8; longest anal ray 1.69; pectoral 1.63; ventral 2.00; caudal lobes 1.46; base of anal 2.1. Body stout, moderately elongate; head short, snout blunt; mouth moderate, maxillary extending somewhat beyond orbit, relatively broader than in the Kern River trout; teeth on jaws, maxillary, palatines, and vomer well developed; fins moderate; caudal peduncle compressed, its least depth equal to distance from tip of snout to posterior edge of pupil; scales relatively large.

Color in life, back and upper part of side light olivaceous; entire body above lateral line, including head, sparsely covered with rather large roundish black spots, those extending below lateral line on caudal peduncle; spots on side anterior to dorsal fin usually few; usually a few spots on median line of back between origin of dorsal and head; snout and top of head usually with a few spots; 2 or 3 spots sometimes on side of head; middle of side with a somewhat distinct rosy band, plainest at middle; parr-marks always present; side below lateral line light golden yellow; belly scarlet, brightest from ventral halfway to isthmus; under side of head, except jaw, reddish orange; cheek light golden yellow anteriorly, rosy or coppery posteriorly; dorsal and anal fins profusely spotted, the other fins with no spots, the anal dusky; adipose fin with edge black, and 2 small black spots; anterior dorsal ray tipped with reddish orange; ventrals and anal red, tipped with orange white; pectoral bronze. The above description chiefly from a specimen 7.75 inches long.

An examination of numerous examples shows some slight variations in the colors. The parr-marks are sometimes less regular, and the exact shade of the bright lateral band and the color of the belly vary somewhat. These, however, are simply differences in intensity rather than in pattern.

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Marks for field identification: In this species the extent of the spotting on the body is the best diagnostic character. The South Fork of Kern trout are almost invariably well spotted, not only on the caudal peduncle but also along the side above the lateral line, at least as far forward as the front of the dorsal fin. There are also usually a few spots on the anterior part of side and along median line of back between dorsal and head; snout and top of head spotted, and usually a few spots on side of head; but there are no spots below the lateral line except on the caudal peduncle.

Distribution: South Fork of Kern River from which it has been introduced into the Cottonwood Lakes and Cottonwood Creek, and doubtless other streams.

This species was originally described by Dr. David Starr Jordan in 1893. His description was based on three small specimens conveyed to him by Mr. W. H. Shockley of San Francisco to whom they had been sent by Mr. George T. Mills, state fish commissioner of Nevada, who in turn had received them from Mr. A. C. Harvey of Lone Pine, Inyo County, California. A memorandum accompanying the specimens stated that they had been "taken by Mr. Harvey of Lone Pine, California, in a stream called by him 'Whitney Creek' (more correctly Volcano Creek), on the west side of the Sierras near Mount Whitney." It has since developed that these specimens did not come from Whitney (Volcano) Creek, but from Cottonwood Creek, a stream on the east side of the mountains and tributary to Owens Lake. Cottonwood Creek was stocked in 1876 by Messrs. A. C. Stevens, S. V. Stevens, and Thomas George with trout obtained by them in Mulky Creek, a small tributary of the South Fork of the Kern in Mulky Meadows, about 3½ to 4 miles from Cottonwood Creek. It is therefore evident that the specimens upon which Dr. Jordan based his description of *Salmo aguabonita* were descendants of the trout from Mulky Creek transplanted into Cottonwood Creek in 1876 and are therefore the same species as that of the South Fork of the Kern. A comparison of specimens taken in the latter stream in 1904 with the type and cotype of *Salmo aguabonita* shows them to be specifically identical.

ROOSEVELT TROUT.

Salmo roosevelti Evermann.

Other names: Volcano Creek Golden Trout; Golden Trout of Golden Trout Creek; Golden Trout; Golden Trout of Volcano Creek.

Description: Head 3.5 in length to base of caudal fin; depth 4; eye 5.6 in head; snout 3.4; maxillary 1.8; longest anal ray 1.9; pectoral 1.8; ventral 2.1; caudal lobes 1.8; base of dorsal 1.9; base of anal 2.6; least depth of caudal peduncle 2.6. Body stout, moderately compressed; head conic, rather long; snout long; jaws subequal, mouth large, somewhat oblique; maxillary long and narrow but slightly curved, extending much beyond orbit; teeth well developed mandible, maxillary, palatines, front of vomer, and on front of tongue, the latter in two rows; caudal peduncle very stout. Fins all strong and well developed; origin of dorsal midway between tip of snout and base of caudal peduncle; base of ventrals under middle of dorsal; caudal broad, strong, little notched when fully spread; anal with its free edge somewhat falcate. Scales exceedingly small, smaller than in any other known species of trout, nonimbricated, and scarcely showing unless dry; there are about 50 in an oblique series from front of dorsal downward and backward to the base of the ventrals; there are about 200 scales in the lateral line, 140 to 150 of them having pores.

Color in life, back, top of head, and upper part of side very light yellowish olive; middle of the side from gill-opening to adipose fin with a broad bright rosy band, the greatest width of which is about equal to greatest diameter of orbit; side below lateral line bright golden yellow, fading below into yellowish white; belly with a broad cadmium or deep orange-red band from throat to anal fin, the color deepest between pectoral and ventral; some red on belly between

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origin of anal and base of caudal; about 10 roundish or vertically oblong parr-marks on middle of side, upon which apparently the rosy lateral band is superimposed; 3 of these parr-marks are on the caudal peduncle posterior to the adipose fin, 2 between the adipose and dorsal fins, 2 under the dorsal, and 3 anterior to it; between the first and second large parr-marks and somewhat below them is a small round spot of the same color, and there is a similar one between the fifth and sixth spots; cheeks and opercles bright rosy, edged posteriorly and below with yellowish, an olivaceous blotch on upper part of cheek and a small black spot on upper part of opercle; region about eye olivaceous yellow, especially below; lower jaw rosy, with some yellowish, membrane between rami of lower jaw whitish, without rosy wash, tip of lower jaw olivaceous; mouth on sides and below tongue orange, whitish elsewhere; side of caudal peduncle with about 30 small roundish black spots, these most numerous on posterior half, there being only 3 anterior to the adipose dorsal fin; rest of body entirely without spots; dorsal fin with about 6 irregular series of small roundish black spots, those toward the distal portion largest and blackest; general color of dorsal fin light olivaceous yellow, the tips of the anterior rays with a broad margin of whitish orange; adipose dorsal olivaceous, narrowly bordered with black, and with 2 small round black spots; caudal fin profusely spotted with black, the spots arranged irregularly in about 8 or 10 vertical rows; those at the base blackest and roundest, those on the distal edge somewhat linear, those on the outer edges of the lobes extending forward onto the dorsal and ventral lines of the caudal peduncle; general color of caudal fin yellowish and olivaceous, the lower lobe somewhat rosy; pectoral red, somewhat lighter than lateral band; ventral reddish, the anterior rays edged with white; anal reddish with a little orange, the anterior half or two-thirds broadly edged with white.

There is not much variation in color, except such as is probably due to difference in age; the rosy lateral band, the parr-marks, and the broad rich cadmium band on the belly are characteristic. The variation in the black spots is inconsiderable. In the 29 specimens which the senior author has examined critically 15 do not show any spots whatever anterior to the adipose fin, and only 2 of the remaining 14 show any spots anterior to the dorsal fin, and these are obscure and few in number. In one large specimen there are but 12 to 14 spots on the caudal peduncle; in another somewhat smaller example there are but 6 spots. The dorsal, anal, and ventral fins are invariably edged with color. The head in the males is longer and more pointed; the maxillary is also longer than in the females.

When well spread the caudal fin is usually slightly lunate or slightly notched, but in some examples it is almost truncate or square. In alcohol all of the bright colors soon fade, the parr-marks, black spots, and pale edges to the dorsal, anal, and ventral fins persisting. The general color of the body then becomes a dirty yellowish white or in some specimens brownish. In some cases the parr-marks almost wholly disappear.

Marks for field identification: The rich rosy lateral band showing through the large distinct bluish-black parr-marks, the rich lemon-yellow of the lower half of the side, the intensely rich cadmium of the belly, and the entire absence of black spots on the body except on the caudal peduncle, readily distinguish the Roosevelt trout from all other species.

Distribution: The golden trout is native to Volcano Creek alone, and occurs throughout the entire length of that stream. It is found at all places from above the tunnel to below the lowermost of the series of falls near the mouth, and in all suitable places from the tunnel to the headwaters above Volcano Meadows, where the elevation is more than 10,000 feet.

Trout are abundant in Volcano Creek; every pool at the foot of a fall or below a cascade or rapid is sure to contain a number of them, and they may be seen on the riffles and under the protecting banks. Although the fish runs down Volcano Creek even to below the lowest falls, it apparently does not venture out into Kern River; no examples were seen there. It is a creek fish and appears to keep within the peculiar environment of the small stream. They are most numerous above the tunnel, probably because fewer tourists visit that portion of

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the stream. The fish there, however, are usually small. The largest, finest examples are found between the natural bridge and the lower falls.

As a game fish the golden trout is one of the best. It will rise to any kind of lure, including the artificial fly, and at any time of day. A No. 10 fly is large enough, perhaps too large; No. 12 or even smaller is much better. In the morning and again in the evening, it will take the fly with a rush and make a good fight, jumping when permitted to do so; during the middle of the day it rises more deliberately and may sometimes be tempted only with grasshoppers. It is a fish that does not give up soon but continues the fight. Its unusual breadth of fins and strength of caudal peduncle, together with the turbulent water in which it dwells, enable it to make a fight equalling that offered by many a larger trout.

Although now abundant the golden trout can not long remain so unless afforded some protection. The attractiveness of the Kern River region because of its scenic beauty is sure to appeal more and more to tourists every year. Practically the entire length of Volcano Creek is easily accessible from the trail from the east side of the divide. As a matter of fact, one can in one day travel the entire length of the creek and have time to stop frequently to drop a fly into the pools which he passes. The trout are readily found and easily captured, as they are so voracious and rise to the lure so readily.

The great beauty of the Roosevelt trout lies in the richness of its colors and in its trimness of form; the brilliancy and richness of its coloration is not equaled in any other known species of trout. The delicate golden olive of the head, back, and upper part of the side, the clear golden yellow along and below the lateral line, overlaid by a delicate rosy lateral band, and the marvelously rich cadmium of the under parts, fully entitle this to be known above all others as *the* golden trout. Except on the caudal peduncle, the body is entirely without the black spots characteristic of the rainbow trout series. One can appreciate to some extent the great beauty of this fish by examining the splendid painting by Hudson.

In form it is no less beautiful; its lines are perfect, the fins large and well proportioned, and the caudal peduncle strong; all fitting it admirably for life in the turbulent waters in which it dwells. It is a small fish, however. It is probable that it never attains a greater length than 14 inches or a weight of more than a pound in Volcano Creek. In the Cottonwood Lakes it is said to reach a weight of five pounds.

The scales are smaller than in any other known species of trout. They are so small, indeed, as to have caused so good an observer as Stewart Edward White to declare that this trout has no scales at all. This is an error in observation that is not uncommon; even James Russell Lowell, excellent naturalist that he was, wrote:

> "One trout scale in the scales I lay
> (If trout had scales), and it will outweigh
> The wrong side of the balances."

But all trout have scales, albeit often very small and not easily seen except by him who knows fishes, and the golden trout scales are the smallest of them all.

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This, the most beautiful trout in all the world, was named in honor of Theodore Roosevelt, the naturalist, who, as President of the United States, ordered the investigation which resulted in its discovery as a new species.

Cutthroat Series.

CUTTHROAT TROUT.

Salmo clarkii Richardson.

Other names: Black-spotted Trout; Columbia River Trout; Clark Trout; Red-throated Trout.

Description: Head 4; depth 4; D. 10; A. 10; cæca 43; scales small, in 150 to 170 cross-series. Body elongate, compressed; head rather short; mouth moderate, the maxillary not reaching far beyond the eye; vomerine teeth as usual set in an irregular zig-zag series, teeth on the hyoid bone normally present, but often obsolete in old examples; dorsal fin rather low; caudal fin slightly forked (more so in young). Color, silvery olivaceous, often dark steel color; back, upper part of side and caudal peduncle profusely covered with rounded black spots of varying sizes and shapes, these spots often on the head, and sometimes extending on the belly; dorsal, adipose, and caudal fins covered with similar spots about as large as the nostril; *inner edge of the mandible with a deep-red blotch*, which is a diagnostic mark; middle of side usually with a diffuse pale rosy wash, sometimes quite bright, and extending on side of head; under parts silvery white. The red blotches or washing on the membrane joining the dentary bones of the lower jaw are usually constant, probably always present in the adult, and constitute a most important character. (Jordan and Evermann)

Marks for field identification: Red marks on throat; very small scales, there being about 150 in a row from head to tail; back profusely spotted; teeth present on hyoid bone at base of tongue.

Distribution in California: Pit River and tributaries, Eel River, coastal streams of northwestern California, Goose Lake.

Spawns in spring. Decidedly a deepwater fish, except during spawning season when it seeks shallower waters. Cutthroats do not rise as readily to a fly as other trout, but more often take a sunken fly; nor do they seek swift water as the rainbow. As a rule, this species does not rank with others in its gameness. Apparently, the cutthroat in this state is not as prolific as the rainbow; at least this species is not nearly so abundant as the rainbow. The cutthroat spawns in the spring and early summer, ascending to the headwaters of streams or depositing eggs in shallow water or on sand bars in the lakes. Lake cutthroats invariably reach a larger size than stream fish. Specimens in the Klamath Lakes have reached a weight of seventeen pounds.

TAHOE TROUT.

Salmo henshawi Gill & Jordan.

Other names: Black-spotted Trout; Silver Trout; Redfish; Tommy; Black Trout; *Salmo tahoensis; Salmo purpuratus henshawi; Salmo mykiss* (in part); *Salmo mykiss henshawi; Salmo clarkii henshawi.*

Description: Head 3.75; depth 4; D. 11; A. 12; scales 27 to 37-160 to 184-27 to 37, usually about 170 in a longitudinal series; body robust, elongate, greatest depth about one-fourth of total length without tail; caudal peduncle about two-fifths length of head; head long, conical, slender, not extending far behind eye; two long series of vomerine teeth; caudal short and distinctly forked; dark olive-green above, covered almost entirely with large black spots; males a dark yellowish-olive color, with metallic reflections, the dark color being the same

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from the back to the ventral surface; a broad, pinkish, indefinite stripe about 10 scales wide on the side, each scale included in this stripe and also in a broad area above and below slightly edged with light yellow; opercle, preopercle, subopercle, and a triangular spot above the axil of pectoral, scarlet or yellowish scarlet; under surface of lower jaw with two parallel stripes of red; red also visible on the tongue and on the shoulder-girdle; brownish-black spots distributed over the entire body; females usually more lightly colored, and the colors seeming to have more metallic luster.

Marks for field identification: The dark olive body with many bold black spots widely scattered almost uniformly over its entire surface, and the red marks on the throat distinguish the Tahoe trout. Sometimes it has a silvery luster. Although plainly belonging to the cutthroat series, having the same red dashes under the throat, long head, small scales and teeth on the tongue, it is nevertheless, browner or yellower in color, and has larger scattered spots which cover the whole fish.

Distribution: Lake Tahoe and its tributary streams and lakes, upper portions of the Truckee River, Donner, Webber, and Independence lakes; introduced in lakes of Siskiyou County, and Bear Lake, San Bernardino County, and in the Stanislaus and the Mokelumne rivers on the western slope of the Sierras.

Anglers usually point out the following different kinds of trout in Lake Tahoe and the Truckee River:

Tahoe Trout, dark in color with large spots.

Silver Trout, silvery in color, with small, elongate spots, body deep and heavy.

Redfish, brilliant in color, with red cheeks.

Tommy, small, relatively large spotted fish, spawning later than the redfish.

Royal Silver Trout, deep blue above and silvery on sides with few or no spots. (*Salmo regalis.*)

Even though known to fishermen, these forms with the exception of the royal silver trout are here all classed as Tahoe trout, until further information is available.

There has been a great deal of speculation over the identity of the redfish, a large brightly-colored fish with a red cheek spot, which runs up the Truckee River early in spring, the migration ceasing in March. By many this is regarded as entirely distinct from the Tahoe trout. With the conclusion of this run of fish there appears a run of smaller fish known to the anglers as tommies. This second migration usually occurs in April and is about over by May 1. The tommy is a smaller and relatively large spotted fish. Whether these two forms which have separate spawning seasons are one and the same fish is yet to be determined, but at present they are given the same name. (Snyder.)

Frequently, a very light-colored silvery example of Tahoe trout is taken, its sides having a bright metallic luster and smaller and more elongate spots. This is usually known as the silver trout, and is said to frequent the greater depths. It attains a very large size, one having been caught which weighed 29 pounds. This form was described by Jordan and Evermann as *Salmo tahoensis* and may be, as they thought, a distinct species.

During a portion of the year the Tahoe trout lives in deep water, and can be caught, if at all, only on long lines. Early in the spring

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and in the summer they are to be found in relatively shallow water. It may be that food supply accounts for this migration from deep to shallow water, as spawning minnows seem to be the attractive food when the trout is in shallow water. The greater number of this species are taken by trolling with a spoon. (Snyder.)

The Tahoe trout appears to feed largely on minnows but black ants and other insects are taken in quantity.

ROYAL SILVER TROUT.

Salmo regalis Snyder.

Other names: Greenback; Grayback.

Description: A fresh specimen is characterized by a deep steel blue on the dorsal surface which color extends downward on the sides to about the sixth row of scales above the lateral line, where it abruptly blends into a silvery hue. The silver dulls ventrally, while the chin, throat, and abdomen are white. The cheek is marked by a faint red or yellow spot glowing faintly through the silver, but this is the only red or yellow color on the fish. The dorsal and caudal fins are the only portions of the body marked by dark spots, but even these are inconspicuous. It has about 144 to 150 lateral series of scales, 29 to 31 above the lateral line, 11 to 13 branchiostegals, and 19 to 21 gillrakers. No external sex differences can be observed. (Snyder)

Marks for field identification: The Royal Silver trout, easily confused with silvery specimens of the common Tahoe trout (*Salmo henshawi*), differs from the latter in its decidedly silvery sides, blue back, shorter head, shorter and more rounded snout, smaller maxillary, large scales, narrow and more pointed fins, perfectly smooth basi-branchials which are without teeth, and fewer gillrakers. The absence of spots is also characteristic.

Distribution: Known only from the Lake Tahoe basin.

Little is known about its habits, but apparently it does not spawn in streams tributary to Lake Tahoe, as does the Tahoe trout. Feeds largely on insects, but doubtless also takes minnows, as it has been caught on a spinner.

Native Charrs.

DOLLY VARDEN TROUT.

Salvelinus parkei (Suckley).

Other names: Malma; Salmon Trout (Alaska and Montana); Bull Trout (Idaho); Western Charr; Oregon Charr; *Salvelinus malma* (in part).

Description: Head 3.5 to 3.75; depth 4.8 to 6; eye 6.5 to 7; snout 3 to 4; maxillary 1.7 to 3; D. 11; A. 9; scales 39-240-36; pyloric cæca large, 45 to 50; gillrakers about 8 to 12. Body rather slender, the back somewhat elevated, less compressed than in *Salvelinus fontinalis;* head large, snout broad, flattened above; mouth large, the maxillary reaching past the eye; fins short, the caudal slightly forked or almost truncate. General color, olivaceous, the sides with round red or orange spots nearly as large as the eye, the back with similar but smaller spots, and without reticulations, a feature of coloration which at once distinguishes this from all other American trout; lower fins colored much as in *S. fontinalis*, dusky with a pale stripe in front, followed by a darker one. (Jordan and Evermann.)

Marks for field identification: Distinguished from true trout and from other charrs by the lack of reticulations or mottling in its color pattern. Large orange or red spots on the back as well as sides, and the lack of blackish marblings on the upper fins, distinguish it from the Eastern Brook trout. It may weigh, when mature, anywhere from six ounces to twelve pounds. The little ones are brightest in color.

Distribution: The only stream in California in which the Dolly Varden trout is known to be a native is the McCloud River.

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The Dolly Varden is more voracious than the true trout. In Alaska streams it devours millions of salmon eggs, as well as young salmon and this fish is the greatest enemy the salmon breeder finds. Gamy and vigorous, it makes a fair game fish, taking a baited hook freely. They also rise readily to the artificial fly. Their food is principally minnows. In California, the Dolly Varden is largely nonmigratory. It lies on the bottom and waits for food to come to it, then grabs it like a mad bulldog. When caught it will often actually attempt to defend itself by biting. Moreover, it will live longer out of water than other trouts.

When this fish was taken by scientists in the McCloud River, the resemblance to a dress goods with spots called Dolly Varden and which was then the rage, led to its being given this name by the lady members of the party, and "Dolly Varden" it has been ever since.

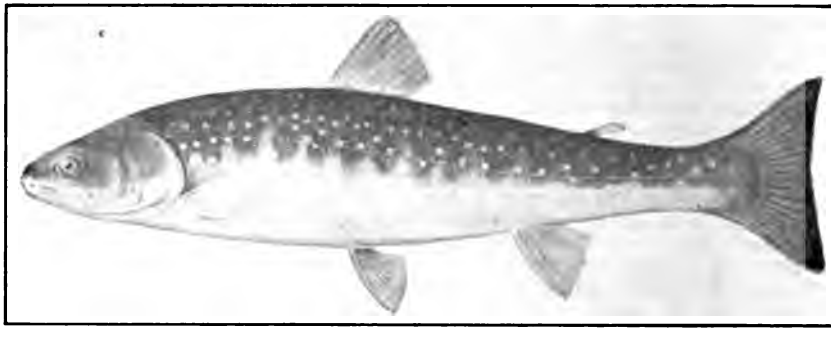

Fig. 43. Dolly Varden trout (*Salvelinus parkei*). A charr, not a true trout, found in this state only in the McCloud River.

Introduced Species.

EASTERN BROOK TROUT.

Salmo fontinalis (Mitchill).

Other names: Brook Trout; Speckled Trout; Fontinalis.

Description: Head 4.5; D. 10; A. 9; scales 37-230-30; gillrakers about 6+11; body oblong, moderately compressed, not much elevated; head large, but not very long, the snout bluntish, the interorbital space rather broad; mouth large, the maxillary reaching beyond orbit; eye large, somewhat above axis of body; caudal fin slightly lunate in the adult, forked in the young; adipose fin small; pectoral and ventral fins not especially elongate. Color, back more or less mottled, marbled, or barred with dark olive or black, without spots; red spots on side rather smaller than the pupil; dorsal and caudal fins mottled with darker; lower fins dusky, with a pale, usually orange, band anteriorly, followed by a darker one; belly in the male often more or less red. (Jordan and Evermann.)

Marks for field identification: Small imbedded scales making the fish appear scaleless; mottled or marbled color pattern of back with no spots, and red lower fins fringed with white, are the best distinguishing features.

Distribution: Tahoe region, Sierran lakes and streams; planted in most streams from Siskiyou to San Diego County, with the exception of the coastal streams. This fish now has the widest distribution, in California, of any introduced species.

Eastern brook trout abound chiefly in cold, slow-running meadow brooks; but they thrive in all pure cold waters which contain sufficient

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—From drawing by Charles Bradford Hudson

EASTERN BROOK TROUT *(Salvelinus fontinalis)*

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air, including lakes and ponds. Never, in California, are they found in fast-rushing mountain streams. This fish is wary, and great skill is required in catching it. The outstanding peculiarity of its habits is evidenced by the fact that a person acquainted with its haunts can go out and catch a string of Eastern brook in a comparatively short time, while others, with better tackle and equal skill, will fish a whole day for them in vain. The largest brook trout are found in the deep, wide pools in the warmer waters; the smallest ones are found in the cold, narrow mountain rivulets near their source. Eastern brook trout do not keep well nor ship well, probably on account of the fat. They spawn high up in the tributary streams and so early (October to January) that eggs for hatchery purposes are almost impossible to obtain. This trout is a nest-builder. "Cavities are made in gravel, the nest is shaped with the tail. * * * After the eggs are deposited they are covered with gravel. The egg is about one-fifth of an inch in diameter, and varies in color from pale lemon to orange red. The average yield of the female is from 400 to 600. The period of hatching will depend on the temperature, ranging from 165 days in water of 37 degrees to 32 days in water of 54 degrees. The yolk sack is absorbed in from 30 to 80 days, and after its absorption the young fish begins to feed. The rate of growth will, of course, depend on the amount of food consumed. In artificial culture yearlings, according to Mr. Ainsworth's estimate, will average 2 ounces; fish of two years, 4 ounces; of three years, 8 ounces, and of four years, 1 pound." (Bean.)

History. The California Fish Commission purchased 6,000 Eastern brook trout in 1872, and distributed them equally in the North Fork of the American River, in the headwaters of Alameda Creek, and in the San Andreas reservoir, near San Francisco. In 1875, a large shipment of eggs, 60,000, was received from New Hampshire and succeeding shipments in 1877, 1878, and 1879. Beginning in 1890, large numbers have been hatched and distributed each year. More recently, eggs for the hatcheries have been secured from the Marlette-Carson hatchery in Nevada.

BROWN TROUT.

Salmo fario Linnæus.

Other names: von Behr Trout; European Brown Trout.

Description: D. 13-14; A. 10-11; P. 13; V. 9. Scales 25-20-30; pyloric cæca 38-51; vertebræ 57-58. Body short and stout, its greatest depth being contained about four times in the length without the caudal. The caudal peduncle is short and deep, its depth equal to two-fifths of the length of the head. Length of head is one-fourth of total length without caudal. Dorsal fin is nearer to tip of snout than to root of tail; longest ray of this fin equals the distance from the eye to the end of the opercle. Ventral is under the posterior part of the dorsal; its length is about one-half that of the head. The adipose dorsal is over the end of the anal base. Pectoral nearly one-sixth of length without the caudal. In the male the jaws are produced and very old ones have a hook. The maxilla extends to the hind margin of the eye. On head, body and dorsal fin are numerous red and black spots, the latter circular or X-shaped and some of them with a pale border; yellowish margin usually present on the front of the dorsal and anal and the outer part of the ventral. The dark spots are few in number below the lateral line. The ground color of the body is brownish or brownish black, varying with food and locality. (Bean.)

Marks for field identification: The back and sides of this trout are decidedly brown; the back is covered with black spots and the sides with red spots. The belly is silvery white or brownish. This trout is not easily confused with others.

Distribution: A pure strain is to be found in the Yosemite Valley region; streams of northern Humboldt and Lake County. Hybrids, the result of a cross with the Loch Leven, are found in many other streams in the state.

The brown trout lives in clear, cold, rapid streams and at the mouths of streams tributary to lakes. It grows to be of large size; maturing at about 8 inches in length. In its movements it is swift, and it leaps over obstructions like the salmon. It feeds usually in the morning and evening, is more active during evening and night, and often lies quietly in deep pools or in the shadow of overhanging bushes and trees for hours at a time. Insects and their larvæ, worms, mollusks, and small fishes

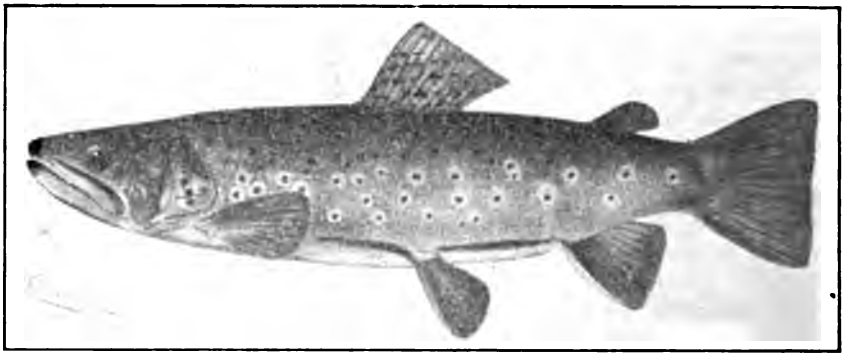

Fig. 44. Brown trout (*Salmo fario*) introduced into California about 1895. Now distributed widely in our state.

form its food, and, like its relative, the rainbow trout, it is fond of the eggs of fishes. Spawning begins in October and continues to January. Eggs are deposited in crevices between stones, under projecting roots of trees, and sometimes in nests excavated by the spawning fishes. The parents cover the eggs to some extent with gravel. (Bean.)

History. Several plants of brown trout were made by the United States Bureau of Fisheries previous to 1895, but in that year 135,000 were reared at the Sisson hatchery. With the exception of those held in the breeding ponds these fish were planted in the lakes and streams of the high Sierras.

LOCH LEVEN TROUT.

Salmo trutta levenensis Walker.

Other names: *Salmo levenensis;* Scotch Trout.

Description: D. 13; A. 12; P. 14; V. 9. Scales 24 to 28—118 to 130—26-30; pyloric cæca 47-90; vertebræ 56-59. Body slender and elongate, its greatest depth contained four and one-fourth to four and one-half times in total length without caudal. Caudal peduncle slender, its least depth three-eighths of the greatest depth of the body, and equal to length of snout and eye combined. Head rather short and conical, its length two-ninths to one-fifth of the total length without caudal. The snout is one-fourth or slightly more than one-fourth as long as the head. The interorbital space is somewhat convex, its width equal to three-fifths of the length of postorbital part of head The eye is of moderate size, its long diameter contained five and one-half to six times in the length of the head, and equalling about twice the greatest width of the maxilla. Maxilla reaches to or slightly beyond the hind margin of the eye. Teeth rather strong, those in the intermaxillary and mandible the largest, triangular head of vomer with two or three in a transverse series at its base,

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teeth on the shaft of the vomer usually in a single, partially zig-zag, persistent series. Mandible without a hook and little produced even in breeding males. Dorsal origin distant from tip of snout about as far as end of dorsal base from base of caudal; the dorsal fin higher than long, its longest ray equal to longest ray of anal fin. The anal fin is much higher than long, its distance from the base of the ventral equaling length of the head. The ventral origin is nearly under the middle of the dorsal, the fin being as long as the postorbital part of the head. Pectoral equals length of head without the snout. Adipose fin very small, its width one-half its length, which is about equal to eye. Caudal fin emarginate unless fully extended, when it becomes truncate, the outer rays about one-seventh of total length, including caudal. (Bean)

Marks for field identification: The true Loch Leven trout is a slimmer fish than the brown trout, and the adipose fin is smaller. Furthermore, it is fully spotted and lacks the brown color of the brown trout. The sides are silvery with a varying number of X-shaped black spots or rounded brown or black spots.

Distribution: Webber Lake in Sierra County has pure original stock. Common to California streams: Feather River, Tahoe region, and Siskiyou County lakes and streams, but usually crossed with brown trout.

The spawning season may begin in October and continues till January. According to W. H. Shebley, the egg is slightly smaller (260 to a fluid ounce) than the egg of a rainbow (220 to a fluid ounce) but larger than that of an Eastern brook (345 and 400 to fluid ounce).

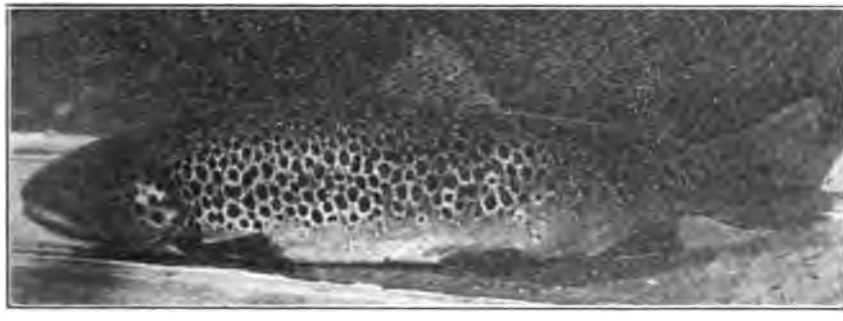

Fig. 45. Loch Leven trout (*Salmo levenensis*). A native of Scotland. Introduced into California in 1894, and now a common fish in Sierra streams, but often crossed with the brown trout.

This trout is largely nonmigratory in its native habitat. It takes the artificial fly readily. The food of this species includes fresh-water mollusks, crustaceans, worms, and small fish.

History. Twenty thousand Loch Leven trout eggs were received at the Sisson hatchery in 1894. Since that time plants have been made annually from the fry reared at this hatchery. Most of the fish in the breeding ponds at present are hybrids secured by crossing with the brown trout. Hybridization between these two species is very common.

MACKINAW TROUT.

Cristivomer namaycush (Walbaum).

Other names: Great Lakes Trout; Cristivomer; among the Canadian Indians called the "namaycush."

Description: Head 4.25; depth 4; eye 4.5; Br. 11 or 12; D. 11; A. 11; scales 185 to 205; maxillary 2; interorbital 4. Body long; head very long, its upper surface flattened; mouth very large, the maxillary extending much beyond the eye, the

head and jaws proportionately lengthened and pointed; caudal fin well forked; adipose fin small; teeth very strong. General coloration, dark gray, sometimes pale, sometimes almost black, everywhere with rounded pale spots which are often reddish tinged; head usually vermiculate above; dorsal and caudal reticulate with darker.

Marks for field identification: Largest of all trouts and known by its cream-colored or grayish spots instead of red spots as in the true charrs. The dorsal and caudal fins are marked.

Distribution: Introduced in Lake Tahoe, Fallen Leaf and Donner lakes, where it is occasionally caught.

Omnivorous in its feeding habits; it has a ravenous appetite, greedily devouring all kinds of fishes possessing soft fins. It is even said that jackknives, corncobs and other equally indigestible articles have been found in its stomach. It spawns on reefs and lives in deep water at other times. The spawning season begins late in September, and spawning continues until December.

The Mackinaw trout reaches a much larger size than a charr, specimens of from 15 to 20 pounds weight being not uncommon, while it

Fig. 46. Mackinaw trout (*Cristivomer namaycush*). A large trout native in the Great Lakes. Now occasionally taken in the Tahoe region, where it was introduced in 1894.

occasionally attains a weight of 50 to 80 pounds in the Great Lakes. As a food fish it ranks high, although it may be regarded as somewhat inferior to the brook trout or the whitefish. Compared with other salmonoids, the Great Lakes trout is a sluggish, heavy, and ravenous fish. "According to Herbert, a coarse, heavy, stiff rod, and a powerful oiled hempen flaxen line on a winch, with a heavy sinker; a cod-hook baited with any kind of flesh, fish, or fowl—is the most successful, if not the most orthodox or scientific mode of capturing him. His great size and immense strength alone give him the value as a fish of game; but when hooked he pulls strongly and fights hard, though he is a boring, deep fighter, and seldom if ever leaps out of the water, like the true salmon or brook trout." (Jordan.)

History. First brought to California in 1894, the Mackinaw trout was propagated at the Sisson hatchery, and the following year 65,000 were planted in Lake Tahoe. In succeeding years additional plants were made in the Truckee basin. This fish has not thrived as well as other introduced species.

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Fig. 47. Planting fish in the High Sierras.

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SUMMER ON THE CALIFORNIA TROUT STREAMS.

By ROBERT PAGE LINCOLN, Associate Editor of "Rod and Gun in Canada."

Trout fishing California has in plenty, with the added attraction of picturesqueness afforded by cool valleys, and overlooked by towering mountains. There is a wide variety to choose from; and that the sport is of the very best is annually attested by the experiences of thousands of the sons of Walton who hie them away for a try at the big fellows. They generally come back with what they went for, and some memories, too, that are enlivened with bright lights that are prone to linger long in the consciousness; on the other hand, it is doubtful if such memories ever pass out of one's hoard of recollections.

It is the pride of California to know that it has a native trout that has gone down to fame, and has taken up its home in practically every quarter of the world. Just how many of the people of the Sunny State are aware of this I do not know, but that brilliant clan, the California league of fly-rod men, are in understanding of it. The fish I have reference to is the rainbow trout (*Salmo irideus*), the most noble finny fighter that ever seized an artificial fly and made a leaping, dazzling flight through the waters. In the Eastern section of the country men speak volumes about the speckled brook trout, though each and every one of them end up, at some time or another, by telling of the fight that the rainbow trout puts up when captured. As an introduction into other waters, the native Californian, rainbow trout, has proven himself well able to take care of himself and to perpetuate his kind for the benefit of anglers. The rainbow trout is now found in the waters of the British Isles, in France, Germany and Russia. Exceptionally good rainbow trout fishing is to be had in the many rivers of South Africa. Anglers have written enthusiastically of fishing for *Salmo irideus* in the streams of New Zealand. In our own country the rainbow trout has had a wide distribution. Knee deep in the waters of Michigan and Wisconsin streams I have played this fighter—the pride of California; reared at the foot of the snow-capped mountains, in the heart of the Sierras. In the rage that swept the Eastern States over speckled brook trout fishing, a condition has arisen where practically every stream has been sapped of its spotted beauties. Where to turn for a replenisher? The rainbow trout is always the happy solution. There is not a properly-fitted trout stream that will not do for the rainbow trout. It grows fast. It fights well.

But it seems that only in the shadow of their beloved mountain home (as in the Sierras) do the rainbow trout give a befitting example of their sprightly dash and pugnaciousness. One who has tested the fighting leap and flight of a rainbow trout, in its own particular native waters, in the mountains, and has tested a fish of the same species in Eastern waters at once knows the difference. Still flowing, often quite warm, and often discolored streams (which the rainbow trout has been introduced into in the East) produce a slow-moving fish with little fight in him. Such fish speedily degenerate into gluttons, and keep themselves in the pools. Many of these hulking fellows finally get to hugging the bottom and rarely come to the surface to take a fly.

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How different the mountain rainbow! Unused to warm water, like the brook trout, he demands the sweet, cold water. By reason of the swiftness of the mountain stream he has a vigorous "kick" to his tail. His fins are superlatively strong for breasting those crystal currents. When he takes your artificial fly he does not lazily rise to the surface to suck it in, but snaps it. A moment later he will turn a double or triple somersault and the fight is on. 'Ware of that light tackle! He is a match for you. Back and forth he will race from one edge of the stream to the other. He is cunning, too, and knows every log and obstruction in the stream. He will (if you do not watch out) snag your leader on a convenient boulder and there will be nothing left but the fragrant memory of what might have been. The mountain rainbow is a high flyer, with the guarantee of gameness linked with his name. It recalls the brilliant words of Charles Frederick Holder: "How that rainbow came at me; how it went repeatedly into the air; how I nearly fell overboard, are matters of personal history, and need not be dwelt upon; but for the first few seconds that living rainbow, which went pirouetting over the little river on its tail, throwing impossible aerial swings and leaps, filled a space in my imagination. Again and again the rainbow leaped, a silvery radiance flashing in the sunlight, dropping back to dash about the boat, to come in with a rush, faster than I could reel. * * *

"You have, perhaps, never seen a big rainbow fresh from the icy pools of its choice. Know, then, that this fish, this seven-pounder which I held upon the scales, was a thing of beauty, a joy forever beyond dispute. Its back was well sprinkled with ocelot-like black spots; the color a deep green, the lower surface silver, while over all seemed drawn a filmy gauze of old-rose fabric, of inexpressible delicacy and beauty, which was intensified along the median line in a band of pink and rose and other tints that produced all the colors of the rainbow, for truth, and gave this radiant creature rank among the birds of brilliant plumage."

Holder wrote of the large rainbow trout to be taken in the lakes and streams of northern California and southern Oregon. How skillful was this great California angling writer in telling the beauty of fishes, and the fascination in taking them? No one has equalled his efforts at word painting with black upon white.

When one speaks of rainbow trout in California one instinctively thinks of the Kern River, which finds its birth in the high Sierras. The waters from Mount Whitney pour into that beautiful stream, "a great, clear, green, swift stream, among the granite rocks, its waters slipping along like oil; a river with rippling shallows and deep, cold eddies, the perfect home of the trout." The Kern River is famed among anglers the world over. When anglers meet it is always: "Have you ever fished the Kern, of California?" If you have fished the Kern you are the center of a curious throng of interested listeners. Especially does the Kern River interest anglers in that some of the tributaries from Mount Whitney contain a trout that is one of the gentle wonders of this planet. I refer to the so-called golden trout. Professor Gilbert brought out the first specimens of this fish for identification. David Starr Jordan designated the fish *Salmo gilberti*. That was some twenty years ago. The fish was brought from Soda Springs on the

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south fork of the Kern River. Later the isolated golden trout of Volcano Creek were designated as a species apart from the others, the scientific term being given them (*Salmo agua-bonita*).* This name was derived from the waterfall that separates the Volcano Creek from the rest of the world—that is, as far as coming and going concerns this trout. There are scientifically, three species of the so-called golden trout in the Mount Whitney waters; overcast in gold, the fins tinted in the purest orange with a nicely brushed-in orange colored stripe along the median line. The golden trout are an off-shoot of the rainbow trout; merely that changed environments have wrought a subtle transformation in their coloration, for the pigment cells of a trout are very sensitive to taking on a new coloration. If a stream bottom be of sand and gravel, and very bright, the fish attains to a silvery coloration. The golden trout owe their coloration to the color of the bottom of the stream they live in. "The rocks over which these streams flow," says Jordan, "are of bright granite and quartzite, gray and red. It is supposed that the color is protective, for the fish are colored like the bottom. To a bird looking into the stream, the deception is perfect. It is supposed (though no one knows) that the colors have been attained through natural selection. The redder the fish, the better its chance to escape the fishhawk and eagle. If this is not the cause of the color, no one can guess any other, and to escape its enemies through resemblance to natural objects is not a trait of the fish alone, but of hundreds of other creatures in these and other mountains. But whatever the cause, nothing in nature is more beautiful or more graceful than a golden trout, alive in these clear, icy, sun-lit waters."

The golden trout are trout of the high altitudes. Such trout rarely grow to length and breadth and weight. One rarely catches a true golden trout much over three-quarters of a pound in weight. They rarely go over twelve inches in length; a ten-incher may be taken as a large one. They attain to maturity at a length of about eight inches. Sadly, they are unwise, being so far removed from man, and they take the fly with a dash and at the first cast that leads many a fish hog to catch ten times more than he should. Quieter stretches of water (as where it flows through the meadows) provide good fishing. The trout angler will find joy in taking a very few of these exceptional fishes and enjoy the thought that he is in a region that, for beauty, it is hard to equal.

Unknown to many, the size of the stream, the river or the lake that a rainbow trout is found in has its effect upon the size of the fish. The reason of this is two-fold: first, the size of the stream; second, the smaller amount of food that it produces. It is for this reason that the rainbow trout often mature when they are six inches in length, in the streams of the high altitudes. They will ravenously seize the artificial fly, believing it food, for there is a scarcity of it, and therefore its attractiveness is instantaneous. In the slightly larger streams the rainbow trout attain to weights of about two or three pounds. In still deeper streams and large pools four-pounders are not uncommon. The Kern, the Kings and the Merced rivers are representative rainbow

*It was later learned that the specimens to which Dr. Jordan gave the name *Salmo agua-bonita* really came from Cottonwood Creek, into which they had been introduced from South Fork of Kern River, and that the trout of Volcano Creek is a very different species, which Dr. Evermann named *Salmo roosevelti*. See pages 124-125.

streams. In the lakes (as in Kern Lake) the rainbow trout reaches to a weight of eight pounds. In the Klamath Lakes rainbow trout have been taken as high as twenty-five pounds in weight. The ocean-running rainbows are large; they are salmon-like fellows. They feed heavily in the ocean and thus attain often gigantic weights. In the ocean their beautiful fresh-water coloration fades and they become silvery in coloration. They generally come up to the coast rivers in the month of March to spawn.

Summer on the California trout streams is one of joy unending and success in due measure. Nevertheless, it is strange what a falling off occurs in the number of anglers who visit the streams in the latter part of July and August. Opening days are always attended by outward moving delegations of anglers; and the streams are thickly peopled. Later on, however, they dwindle down to twos and threes—and the streams are left to themselves. A certain number of these sons of Walton know that the best fishing occurs when the heats of summer lower on the earth, for it is then the mountain waters yield up their fairest specimens. Those secluded pools are then veritable treasure-places and bear a careful looking into; it takes skill and the correct lure, but the wise angler is never wanting in fitting perfectly into the situation. Live bait, spinners and artificial flies are used. The live-bait man knows that the grasshopper is a telling lure what time the July sun is gilding the heavens and is never to be found near to the waters then without a box of them. How to use them on the hook without impaling them? Simply procure some of the smallest druggist rubber snaps. Take a sufficient number of turns of the rubber around the hook, bend and then insert the hopper in the loop. Helgramite are attached to the hook in the same manner and they will still be as alive as ever. The druggist rubber snap is a bait-saver, and no mistake. One may catch fifty trout (if it so be) on a helgramite, attached to the hook with a snap, and at the end of the day's fishing it will be as active as ever. The larvæs of the Dobson fly (which is the helgramite) are only too well known to the live-bait fisher. They are those wicked-looking creatures one finds in the streams upon turning up stones. They have a series of pincers on each side, though they are more savage in appearance than in actual combat. It has been said that when all else in the line of bait fails, the helgramite, the grasshopper and the angleworm will win.

And there is method in the skillful use of the angleworm, too. In fact there is an art, in itself, to "working for trout," as it is called. Your chuck-and-chance-it, live-bait fisherman will hook on a great gob of worms; will start it at the head of a pool and will let it tumble, haphazard down with the current, rolling over the bottom of the stream. Some rainbows may see it, and take it, no doubt, but not the fish you are looking for. The true sportsmanlike method of worming for trout consists in connecting a bare hook to a spinner—a No. 1 or 2 spinner will do nicely. To this bare hook the worm is attached so that it will trail in the water. Instead of driving the hook throughout the worm, it is hooked just under its skin. It requires some little art to cast this—in fact, it is not a cast at all, but is allowed to play out in the water. The spinner will whirl, throwing off a silvery ray, and the long, trailing worm will have a snaky, wavering motion in the water

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that proves instantly attractive. Move this into some suspicious-looking mountain pool and if there is a large rainbow trout there he will be interested in sampling your offering, be it feeding time or no. It is hard, in the finny world, to refuse an angleworm that trails so subtly and enticingly in the water.

However, the safest and most certain method in using the angleworm for a lure goes as follows, and has never been known to fail at getting the fish that strikes: A No. 10 is slipped on to a leader and is tied to the leader one and one-half inches from the end of it. The hook should not stand out from the leader; rather the hook shank should lie along the leader. This done, a second hook is tied on to the leader at the end, to be the lead hook, the front hook, so to speak. Now the worm is connected to this affair, the head of the worm being attached to the back hook, while the front hook is worked into the body. To all appearances when this is moved in the water the worm is free; this is especially true if you are using an invisible leader, of which there is at least one on the market. When a fish strikes this worm he will hook up either to the first or the second hook on the leader, or both. There is hardly a chance here of nipping off the end of the worm for the simple reason that there is a hook in it.

It seems strange, but nevertheless a fact: Trout will strike freely and well, it seems, at all times, on the fore-fin of a trout. Simply upon capturing a trout sever one of the fore-fins and attach it to the hook. Some of the largest rainbow trout in the mountains will take the fin viciously when even the succulent grasshopper fails. This fact may be known to some anglers, but it is as one in ten. The same is true of a little white strip cut from the belly of one of your trout, about two inches long and one-half inch wide at the butt end. Attach this to the hook at its tip and play it to the current. If the current is strong, one will need to place several split-shots on the leader to sink it. Then let out line. Let it flow downstream. Seventy-five, one hundred, one hundred and fifty feet, perhaps. Down it goes, moving in and out of the pools. Suddenly a large fellow beside a boulder will seize it and the fun begins. These methods win when the fish are weak on surface feeding, and are closer to the bottom; and this often happens. Do not forget the fore-fin or the belly-fin of the trout as a lure. Many are not aware of it, but the artificial fly known as the Parmachenee Belle, was made in imitation of the belly-fin of a trout. Think of it; instead of imitating an insect (as many suppose it should) it is an imitation of the belly-fin of a trout. Could anything be more incongruous? Yet it was such a valuable hint that the inventor (a great angler) made a fly to represent it. The July and August angler in the mountain pools should give this his careful attention.

It has been said that there are times in July and August when the angler is not able to "rise" a fish; that the fish do not even seem to do any surface-feeding. Naturally, the best fishing goes on when the fish are rising to the top for insects, as when a hatch of insects is on and they are rising from the bottom of the stream. The higher one goes up in the mountains the fewer, it appears, become the true stream insects. The angler must needs use art in collaboration with some true study to make some appreciable catches. Mountain trout may be uncertain fellows. Having had poor luck (if any) with a small fly, he may

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shift to a rather large fly (even a bass fly) and immediately rise a large fellow and make the best catch of the season. The trouble with the ill-luck of many anglers is that they give no time to experimentation. They place their luck with one variety or color of fly, or one size of fly, and remain at that, without trying anything else. There is another extreme to this in that many fly-fishermen are constantly changing flies and using one but five minutes before another shift is made. The result is that no fly is given a true tryout. Again there is a hint learned from experience: One cast well-judged and well-placed is worth ten indifferent casts that have been poorly placed. The difference is that the well-placed cast is the one that brings success; the poor casts, ill-judged, are so much waste of time. Study every nook and cranny of the stream you are to cast over. Don't make a cast till you have mentally made note of where a large fellow would in all likelihood happen to be. For instance, beside that large boulder there is a patch of still water. If you can make a cast so that your fly, or flies, will fall on the boulder you will craftily pull them off the boulder—and in the most natural manner they will fall to the still patch of water. Deceived, believing the artificial flies true insects, that large and dazzling rainbow will rise and take the offering. Or here is a semidark place under a sedgy bank. There is a still place there. A trout should be lurking in that nook. Or here is a log in the water. Try your bait or fly alongside of that, seeing to, always, that your fly falls first, not the line and leader first. Poor casting, I firmly believe, has only one result, that being: Ill luck!

During the fore part of the season a great number of anglers go out, but they are live-bait users almost entirely. The salmon-egg contingent, the dyed-in-the-wool fly-fisherman calls them—and the true fly-fisherman can be counted on to eschew the streams till the inimitable July and August days arrive. Then he goes happily forth into the mountain stillnesses.

There is a reason, too. The early fisherman had to contend with high and swift water which was mostly discolored. It was the using of live bait entirely, for the stream insects were not hatching, so that the trout could be deceived by artificial counterparts. Now, however, the winged life is abroad; the fly-fisherman is in his element. As the warmer days come on, the water in the lower reaches of the rivers disappears or becomes heated out, the fish gradually but surely make for the upper pools, and thence follow the fly-fishermen. It is riotous travel at times; the road is rough. Sometimes there are no roads and one makes his own paths at will. But there is a reward among the cools of the upper valleys and natural parks where Nature in all her untrimmed and majestic glory contrives to make California the true Arcadia of the disciple of Walton.

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PARASITES WHICH AFFECT THE FOOD VALUE OF RABBITS.

By E. RALPH DE ONG, University of California.

A fringe of small, lead-colored bodies, the size of coarse shot, is frequently seen on the ears of the brush or cottontail rabbits. These are young ticks, the immature form of one of our common species, probably the wood tick (*Dermacentor occidentalis*). After hatching from the egg the young ticks wait in the grass for a passing rabbit or other animal, attach themselves and feed for three or four days, drop to the ground and molt (shed their old skins), then await another chance to feed.

The presence of these ticks has no effect on the rabbit except a slight loss of blood and a temporary annoyance, and as this tick has not been

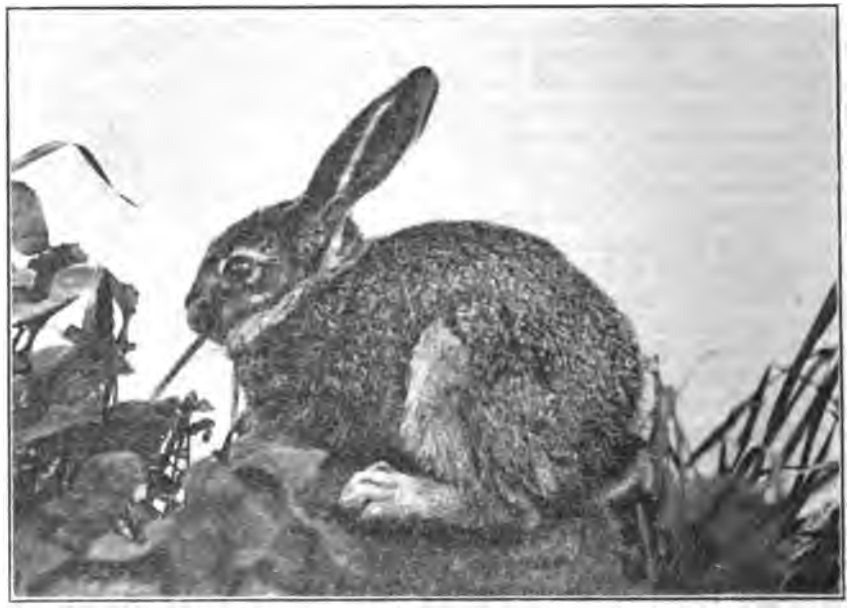

Fig. 48. A young blacktailed jackrabbit, an animal often discarded for food because of the presence of parasites. Photograph by J. Dixon. Neg. 290, Calif. Mus. Vert. Zool.

reported in California as a carrier of any disease it need not be considered as of any significance.

The species of fleas commonly found on rabbits in this state have not been reported as disease carriers so that the presence of these insects can also be disregarded.

One species of botfly (*Cuterebra* sp.) attacks rabbits very commonly. The larvae of this fly is almost black in the mature stage, about three-fourths of an inch long and covered with tiny spines. Brush rabbits taken in Sonoma County up to the last of July were commonly infested with this insect. After the first of August no larvæ were found, they apparently coming to maturity at this time. They then leave the host and bury themselves in the ground, emerging the following year as flies. The larvæ are found just beneath the skin along the back or breast.

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The only outward indication of their presence is a slight enlargement at the affected point. No injury to the muscles was noted in any infested specimen, the body being apparently in a normal condition. Wounds of this kind may, however, become infected by bacteria or become infested with some of the flesh feeding flies and in this way produce large tumorous swellings. These latter attacks, when severe, may produce an emaciated condition of the animal which manifestly impairs the value of the carcass for food. But if the larvae are present on the body of the rabbit, without any outward or internal sign of disease there would seem no reason for discarding the same.

Rabbits are occasionally taken in this state which show the larval form of a common tapeworm (*Cœnurus serialis*) which, when eaten by the dog produces the adult tapeworm *Tœnia serialis*.[1] The infestation in the rabbit appears as a transparent, bladder-like swelling which may be as large as a hen's egg or larger and is of frequent occurrance in jackrabbits, often spoken of by hunters as "boils." Scattered about on the inner surface of this bladder will be seen white dots about half the size of a pinhead. These are the undeveloped heads of tapeworms, each one of which is capable of developing into a mature tapeworm if taken into the body of a carnivorous animal in a living condition. Hence an animal eating an uncooked rabbit infested with one of these bladder worms will develop a typical case of tapeworm. Thorough cooking will kill the larval form so that the meat can be fed to animals without danger. But the uncooked carcass or viscera should not be fed to animals.

One specimen of brush rabbit had two infestations: one originating in the thigh had grown so large as to displace the muscles, the second formed a large swelling on the surface of the breast. Any infestation of this kind should be regarded with suspicion and the carcass burned or buried deeply so as to be out of reach of all carnivorous animals.

Domestic rabbits and probably the wild form are subject to a disease called *coccidiosis* resulting from the attack of a sporozoa (*Coccidium oviforme*). The symptoms are snuffles, running at the nose and diarrhoea. The inner walls of the intestines show reddened patches with more or less ulceration. The liver is enlarged and the interior has many small round abscesses filled with pus; as the disease progresses the carcass becomes emaciated. Animals affected with this disease should be considered as unfit for food.

An ear mite (*Otodectes cygnatis*) is mentioned by Professor Herms as sometimes being abundant enough to cause serious disease or death to domestic rabbits.

[1]Determination by Professor W. B. Herms.

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OUT FISHIN'.

By Edward A. Guest.

A feller isn't thinkin' mean—out fishin';
His thoughts are mostly good and clean—out fishin';
He doesn't knock his fellow men,
Or harbor any grudges then;
A feller's at his finest when—out fishin'.

The rich are comrades to the poor—out fishin';
All brothers of a common lure—out fishin';
The urchin with the pin and string
Can chum with millionaire an' king;
Vain pride is a forgotten thing—out fishin'.

A feller gets a chance to dream—out fishin';
He learns the beauties of a stream—out fishin';
An' he can wash his soul in air
That ain't foul with selfish care,
And relish plain an' simple fare—out fishin'.

A feller has no time for hate—out fishin';
He ain't eager to be great—out fishin';
He ain't thinkin' thoughts of self,
Or goods stacked high upon a shelf,
But he's always just himself—out fishin'.

A feller's glad to be a friend—out fishin';
A helping hand he'll always lend—out fishin';
The brotherhood of rod an' line,
An' sky an' stream is always fine;
Men come real close to God's design—out fishin'

A feller isn't plottin' schemes—out fishin';
He's only busy with his dreams—out fishin';
His livery's a coat of tan;
His creed's to do the best he can;
A feller's always mostly man—out fishin'.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

July 15, 1919.

"There is nothing that attracts human nature more powerfully than the sport of tempting the unknown with a fishing line."—Henry Van Dyke.

VINDICATION.

Periodically, the state Fish and Game Commission is attacked by members of the legislature. Any state commission which has to do with the enforcement of law is subject to such attacks. In 1911 an investigation was ordered by the assembly. The investigating committee, however, gave a very favorable report as to the activities of the Commission. The 1919 assembly began an inquiry which also resulted in complete vindication for the Commission. We hope to publish in the next number the full report of the Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Economy to which a resolution by Assemblyman Eden was referred. While it would seem that the resolution was actuated by spite, the result has been very favorable to the Fish and Game Commission, for it has shown the people exactly where the Commission stands and has widely advertised the accomplishments of the past few years.

NATURE STUDY LIBRARIES TO BE FURNISHED SUMMER RESORTS.

Compact nature study libraries will be placed at those Tahoe resorts which are selected for the educational work of the Fish and Game Commission the coming summer. The libraries will include books on birds, mammals, wild flowers, trees and kindred subjects. Donated to the state by the California Nature Study League, they will be deposited with the Fish and Game Commission to be thus utilized in the commission's educational work. These libraries will be annually loaned to summer resorts in the future and probably represent only the beginning of a work which will eventually cover all the summer resorts of California. They are intended for use at that time when people, being on a vacation, are most receptive to studying intimately the miracles of nature. In ways such as this the Commission is applying the motto: "Conservation through education."

THE 1918 CATCH OF FISH.

Among the reports of this issue of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME is a complete statement of the fresh fish taken in California during the year 1918. In this statement there is included a record of fish taken in Mexican waters and brought into California through San Diego and San Pedro, but this is not included in the total for California.

The total catch of all varieties of fish in California for 1918 was 250,218,041 pounds. Compared with the 201,575,953 taken in 1917, this shows an increase of 48,642,088 pounds, or a trifle over 24 per cent. For a ready comparison of catches of the more important fish for 1917 and 1918, the following table is given:

	1917	1918
Albacore	30,556,243	7,263,895
Barracuda	2,965,368	3,885,691
Bonito	889,896	2,264,164
Halibut	3,585,666	2,837,987
Herring	7,435,997	7,938,280
Mackerel	3,345,563	4,005,906
Rock fish	6,255,380	6,281,425
Sole	8,728,429	7,027,767
Salmon	11,007,442	13,026,076
Sand dabs	2,631,862	1,751,609
Striped bass	1,095,856	1,407,841
Shad (buck and roe)	5,616,110	2,383,635
Sardine	104,103,331	157,652,811
Skipjack	--------	3,023,847
Tuna	--------	6,240,971
Yellowtail	2,887,413	11,658,259

The figure for the albacore catch of 1917 includes the bluefin and yellowfin tuna taken. In 1918 the albacore catch was very short and as bluefin and yellowfin tuna were more plentiful, a much larger number were taken and were for the first time separated from the albacore under the name "tuna." The tuna and albacore catch combined in 1918 was less than half the albacore catch of the previous year.

The sardine catch shows a phenomenal increase although southern California had a light run of sardines during the latter

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Fig. 49. Four new fish hatcheries. Upper left, Ft. Seward Hatchery, Ft. Seward, California; upper right, Kaweah Experimental Hatchery, Kaweah River, Fresno County, Cal.; lower left, Clear Creek Hatchery, Westwood, Lassen County, Cal.; lower right, Domingo Springs Hatchery, Domingo Springs, Plumas County, Cal.

part of 1918. Shad, halibut, sole and sand dab all show a decreased catch during 1918, while bonito, barracuda, mackerel, salmon, striped bass, skipjack and yellowtail all show an increased catch. Although the catch of salmon on Monterey Bay was less, much heavier catches were made at Drakes Bay Fort Bragg and on the lower Sacramento River, which brought the total catch for 1918 to over two million pounds more than that of the year 1917. There was no great fluctuation in the catch of other species.

There was a decrease of 41,177 dozen in the catch of crabs and of 41,943 pounds in the catch of crawfish, while the catch of shrimps shows an increase of 117,174 pounds ove the year 1917. The mollusks do not show any great changes over previous years.

The Department of Commercial Fisheries is making every effort to secure and complete accurate statistics of the catches of all fish and it can readily be seen that a comparison of yearly catches for a number of years will aid in determining whether any certain species is being overfished and depleted, or whether it is becoming more abundant.—N. B. S.

MAINTAIN A SUPPLY!

It can not be expected that wild life resources, if left to themselves, will continue to yield food and sport indefinitely. The reason, of course, is to be found in the encroachment of civilized man, which not only means increased destruction, but a diminution of food supply and nesting sites. Under the artificial conditions now fostered a constant supply can be maintained only through carefully planned protection and propagation. By looking over the attainments of the Commission whose function is to perpetuate fish and game, we are assured that the financial outlay has been more than justified.

RAINBOW TROUT ACCLIMATIZED IN ARGENTINA.

In 1903 at the request of the government of Argentina the United States Bureau of Fisheries donated the eggs of

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several varieties of fish to the southern republic. A letter recently received by the Bureau states that thousands of Eastern brook trout are now being caught annually, that some measure 19 inches, and have a weight of 10 pounds. In the mountain range of Aconquija in 27° south latitude and in the Patagonian region as far south as 52° latitude, the rainbow trout is doing well.

A COLLEGE OF FISHERIES ESTABLISHED.

An event of great importance to those interested in the fisheries of the United States, and especially so to those of the Pacific coast, has been the recent establishment of a College of Fisheries in connection with the University of Washington at Seattle. The need for such a college has been felt for some time, and Dr. Suzzallo, the able and progressive head of the university, is to be congratulated upon his action in this matter.

The commercial fisheries of the Pacific coast are of great importance to its welfare, how much so being plainly indicated when it is stated that Washington, Alaska, Oregon, California and Hawaii produced last year approximately 1,600,000,000 pounds of raw fishery products valued to the fishermen at about $25,000,000. Seven-eighths of the world's pack of canned salmon is made on the coast, while tuna, sardines, clams, crabs, shrimp, mackerel, abalone, etc., are canned in large quantities and shipped to all quarters of the globe. Immense quantities of frozen, fresh, pickled, salted and smoked fishery products are also prepared and shipped. When so prepared the value of the fishery products of this coast alone is increased to over $100,000,000; the investment in plants, vessels, boats, fishing gear, etc., on this coast amounts to about $95,000,000, while over 75,000 persons are employed in fishing and preparing the above products for market.

The production of raw fishery products elsewhere in the United States amounts annually to approximately 2,250,000,000 pounds, valued, to the fishermen, at approximately $60,000,000. When prepared for market these products would probably be worth approximately $120,000,000.

The College of Fisheries just established by the university enjoys the distinction of being the only one of any consequence in the world outside of Japan. In the latter country the Imperial Fisheries Institute at Tokio is a government institution and has been in existence since 1897. Since then subsidiary schools have been established in various provinces of Japan.

Seattle is an ideal location for such a college, as within its corporate limits, or in territory immediately adjacent, are to be found in active operation practically every style of plant used in turning the raw fishery products into all forms of manufactured articles both for food and for use in the arts and sciences; while the great salmon, halibut, cod, and herring fleets operating in Alaska waters have their headquarters mainly in this city, outfitting here and bringing back the products for shipment to the four corners of the world.

The college offers four year courses in fisheries technology and fish culture. The fisheries technology courses will train men

TROUT FRY DISTRIBUTED IN STREAMS AND LAKES OF CALIFORNIA DURING PAST THREE YEARS.

	1916	1917	1918	Total
Rainbow	3,399,920	5,223,500	5,680,500	14,303,920
Eastern brook	2,068,500	1,617,500	2,294,500	5,980,500
Loch Leven	1,620,000	1,468,000	1,633,000	4,721,000
Black spotted	3,835,270	3,836,000	1,059,500	8,730,770
Steelhead	5,213,170	6,699,420	4,483,000	16,395,590
German brown	77,300			77,300
Golden trout			384,000	384,000
Totals	16,214,160	18,844,420	15,534,500	50,593,080

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for various lines of work in industrial plants. Owing to the immensity of the business, as noted above, there is always a demand for trained men in the salmon and other canneries cold storage plants, smokehouses, and fertilizer and oil plants. Every effort will be made to make the courses as practical as possible, and students will make visits to the plants whenever possible so they may obtain first-hand information as to the methods in vogue. They will also receive training in bacteriology and chemistry, and thus will be fitted for work in marine biological laboratories, and in chemical and bacteriological laboratories, specializing in fishery products.

The practice of fish culture is becoming a very important one, and the demand for trained men is bound to increase. Students at the college will not only have the benefit of its instruction and equipment, but can also obtain an abundance of practical experience along all lines of fish culture at the many federal and state hatcheries scattered throughout the state of Washington.

Pond culture, or the farming of our inland waters, will some day be an important industry, as there are many thousands of small lakes, ponds, streams, and marshy spots which would be utilized in this work, and acre for acre produce greater returns than a similar area of land devoted to agriculture.

The shellfish industry of the Pacific coast has not thrived for some years, due largely to faulty methods, and it is hoped that with more modern methods taught there may be a revival of this industry, which ought today to be one of the most important on the coast.

It is hoped in the near future to offer short courses in practical fishery subjects during the winter months when fishing operations are quite generally suspended, these courses to be open to those now engaged in the fisheries and others who desire knowledge along special lines and do not have the time nor desire to take the full courses.

As the university is a state institution, an especially important part of the work of the College of Fisheries will be in rendering assistance and advice whenever called upon by the state authorities, and also to aid the commercial fishermen not only of the state but of the nation in solving the many problems which beset them, and to aid in the conservation and perpetuation of our wonderful fishery resources. Research work along the lines of utilization of hitherto neglected species, and of waste products, will be carried on and it is hoped will result in materially increasing the wealth of the state and nation.

It had originally been planned to open the college at the beginning of the fall term in October, but so many of our returning soldiers expressed a desire to take up the work at once that hurried preparations were made and the college opened for the spring quarter beginning March 31, last.—JOHN N. COBB.

MANY LIONS KILLED.

Bounty reports for the first three months in 1919 show that an unusually large number of mountain lions have been killed in the state. The exact reason for this kill is not apparent, but doubtless the hiring of a man to give all of his time to the destruction of predatory mammals has had some effect in stimulating the destruction of the famous deer killer. The totals for the three months are as follows:

	January.	
21 males	at $20.00	$420 00
24 females	at $30.00	720 00
		$1140 00
	February.	
10 males	at $20.00	$200 00
16 females	at $30.00	480 00
		$680 00
	March.	
22 males	at $20.00	$440 00
18 females	at $30.00	540 00
		$980 00

AIRPLANES TO LOCATE FISH.

Still another use for the airplane is to be found in the recent experiments carried on along the Atlantic coast where a duly qualified observer has been making flights to locate schools of fish. Information so obtained is telegraphed to the fishing interests.

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FISHERY PRODUCTS LABORATORY ESTABLISHED.

The increased importance of the California fisheries has led the United States Bureau of Fisheries to establish an experimental laboratory at San Pedro. The laboratory is now completed and the equipment installed. A corps of three scientists will experiment on methods of preserving fish and otherwise render service to those engaged in canning, drying or salting fish.

THE OWNERSHIP OF WILD LIFE.

Wild life is the property of all the people. No one attempts to deny this, and least of all the game violator. From his point of view it is not only the property of all the people, but it is more particularly the property of him who can get it. The more remote the locality where the law is violated, the more deeply rooted is the idea that the game is there to be taken, regardless of law, and without much feeling of moral obliquity. The violator has a strange feeling that some sort of justification is on his side, though the law may be on the other. The point of view is that of early colonial times, before the state had reason to assert its ownership—when, indeed, game was the property of anyone who could shoot straight enough. It is the point of view of an extreme individualist.

Game is still the property of everyone. But, whereas originally the people placed no restrictions upon the use of that property, they have now thrown about it safeguards that are vital for its continued existence. Every citizen has a vested interest in every individual bird animal and fish, and is defrauded if the game is taken in any way contrary to the established rules. The point of view of the man who respects the law, and insists upon respect for it in others, is that of collective ownership. His individual right to take game is dependent upon consent to do so from others.

The feeling of collective ownership is still only partly developed. The tendency to wink at violations still decreases as the sense of common ownership of wild life is strengthened.—*The Conservationist*, Nov. 1918, p. 173.

OUR FUR RESOURCES.

More and more we are discovering that the annual take of furs in California is considerable and that the money received by the trappers amounts to a large sum. Most of the furs are shipped to Eastern markets, but recently it has come to our notice that many furs are utilized by the trappers themselves. The books of the Eberhard Tanning Company of Santa Clara showed that during 1918 the following skins were tanned by them: 11 bear, 7 lion, 488 deer, 128 coyote, 86 raccoon, 12 badger, 176 fox, 15 opossum, 95 skunk, 121 wildcat, 429 rabbit, 53 tree squirrel, 14 mole.

A canvass of the different tanneries would doubtless furnish some valuable evidence as to what proportion of furs are used for home consumption.—I. L. KOPPEL.

BLACK BASS IS NOT A TRUE BASS.

Some of our readers have perhaps wondered why they did not find some mention of the black bass in the article entitled "Bass and Bass-like Fishes" which appeared in the April number. The primary reason is that the black bass is an introduced fish in our state and furthermore, this fish is more closely related to the sunfishes than to the true basses.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

J. C. Bruce, the state lion hunter, has been at work in and around the McCloud River Game Refuge, District 1E. In this locality he secured three lions. This makes a total of 15 since January 1, together with 6 wildcats. Mr. Bruce started operations in Monterey County during May.

The past year brought splendid returns to the fur trapper. In several instances trappers received as high as $20 for coyotes, $8 for wildcats, and $2.50 for muskrats.

The Fish and Game Commission will install a permanent exhibit in the new building at the State Fair Grounds in Sacramento. The whole north alcove will be used to display the fish and game of the state and the activities initiated to conserve it.

Motion pictures showing the commercial fisheries of the state are being secured for use in educational and publicity work.

Far more definite research work on fish and game is now being carried on by the Commission than has been undertaken heretofore. Professor J. O. Snyder of Leland Stanford Junior University has been secured to undertake a scientific investigation of the quinnat salmon.

A study of the furbearers and the furbearing resources of the state is being undertaken by the Commission.

One haul of a trawl net made recently off the coast of southern California netted a ton of fish of seven different varieties.

Sportsmen convinced that the deer season has opened too early in southern California succeeded in having the law changed by the Legislature to provide for a September 15 opening, 15 days later than formerly.

Applications have been received requesting the setting aside of three different areas as state game reservations. An area of 25,000 acres, one of 30,000 and one of 20,000, are situated in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

Progress is being made on the attempt to negotiate treaties with the Spanish-American republics for the protection of migratory birds. The matter has been referred to the Department of Agriculture that appropriate conventions may be drafted. The state department has promised to act as soon as these drafts are received.

Paladini, the wholesale fisherman of San Francisco, was recently arrested for trawling within the three mile limit. He deposited $250 cash bail for his appearance before Judge De La Montanya at San Rafael. As Mr. Paladini did not appear, his bail was declared forfeited and a bench warrant was issued and given to Constable Crane to serve.

HATCHERY NOTES.

W. H. SHEBLEY, Editor.

BROOKDALE HATCHERY.

The take of eggs at the Scott Creek station will amount to approximately 1,700,000, of which 1,000,000 will be hatched at the Brookdale Hatchery for distribution in the streams in that section of the state. Shipments of eggs have been made to Wawona, Mt. Shasta and Mt. Whitney hatcheries, from which stations they will be given general distribution in suitable streams.

SNOW MOUNTAIN STATION.

The take of eggs at Snow Mountain Station, on the Eel River, was much greater than that at Brookdale, and will amount to probably 4,500,000. Of the eggs hatched at Snow Mountain 200,000 are to be planted in the upper reaches of the Eel River near the station, and the balance of the eggs have been shipped to Ukiah, Yosemite, Fort Seward, Mt. Whitney, Domingo Springs, Mt. Shasta, Kaweah and San Mateo hatcheries. From these stations the resulting steelhead trout fry will be given an extensive distribution under the arrangements made for carrying on this season's operations.

MT. TALLAC HATCHERY.

The Mt. Tallac Hatchery was opened for operations during the latter part of March, and the work is progressing very nicely. To date there have been nearly 2,000,000 black-spotted trout eggs taken and we expect to reach the 3,000,000 mark before the end of the season.

FALL CREEK HATCHERY.

The rainbow egg-collecting stations on the Klamath River were opened for operations during the month of February. Racks and traps were installed in Cottonwood Creek, near Hornbrook, and in Camp, Bogus and Fall creeks; and 1,750,000 rainbow trout eggs were taken at the four stations. A portion of the eggs were immediately shipped to Mt. Shasta Hatchery to be eyed, and the balance were placed in troughs at the new Fall Creek Hatchery, where they will be eyed for shipment to stations in other parts of the state. We have also arranged to hatch nearly a half million rainbow eggs at the Fall Creek Hatchery for distribution in the Klamath River this season. A million quinnat salmon eggs

Fig. 50. Fall Creek Hatchery. A fine modern hatchery built by the California-Oregon Power Company in lieu of a fishway over the Copco Dam. Photograph by L. J. Stinnett.

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have also been hatched at the Fall Creek Hatchery and the resulting fry will be distributed in the Klamath River. Shipments of rainbow eggs will be made from Fall Creek Hatchery to Ft. Seward, Mt. Shasta and Yosemite hatcheries, from which stations they will be given the usual distribution.

BEAR LAKE HATCHERY.

Fish cultural operations were commenced at the North Creek egg collecting station during the latter part of March and racks were put in both North Creek and Metcalf Creek. The season has been a very favorable one, and while the run is still on, we believe that the take of rainbow trout eggs at this station will amount to approximately 4,500,000. Arrangements are being made to hatch and distribute 750,000 rainbow fry from the North Creek Hatchery, and a like number will be sent to the Bear Lake Hatchery, located at Green Spot Springs, from which station they will be distributed in Big Bear Lake and streams of San Bernardino County later in the season. Arrangements are being made to ship eyed eggs from the North Creek station to Mt. Whitney, Mt. Shasta, Yosemite, Kaweah and Wawona hatcheries.

ALMANOR HATCHERY.

Almanor Hatchery was opened for operations during the early part of March, and during the fore part of the season there was a good run of rainbow trout. However, it became necessary for the Great Western Power Company to run a big head of water through the Almanor spillway on account of the rapidly melting snow, and this prevented the biggest part of the run of rainbow trout from reaching our racks. However, we will probably receive between 300,000 and 400,000 eggs as the result of the season's work.

DOMINGO SPRINGS HATCHERY.

Domingo Springs Hatchery was opened the latter part of March and at the present time the run of rainbow trout in Rice Creek is on. Very few eggs have been taken to date, but the season promises to be a very favorable one.

CLEAR CREEK HATCHERY.

Clear Creek Hatchery will be opened up during the latter part of May and rainbow trout eggs will be shipped to this station from Almanor and Domingo Springs hatcheries. The resulting fry will be distributed in streams in the vicinity of Westwood and other portions of Lassen and Plumas counties.

MT. SHASTA HATCHERY.

The take of Loch Leven and German brown trout eggs was very successful. More Loch Leven trout fry will be distributed from Mt. Shasta Hatchery during the coming season than ever before. The German brown trout eggs taken are from stock held in the ponds at Sisson Hatchery resulting from eggs received from the Minnesota Fish and Game Commission three years ago. These will be the first German brown trout fry distributed in California for a number of years. The take of Eastern brook eggs was less than usual, and we will have only approximately 1,000,000 fry of this species for distribution during the coming season. Rainbow trout eggs from the Klamath River stations, Domingo Springs and North Creek, and steelhead eggs from Brookdale and Snow Mountain stations have been shipped to the Mt. Shasta Hatchery and the same will be hatched and reared for distribution in streams.

MT. WHITNEY HATCHERY.

Rainbow, Loch Leven, Eastern brook, black-spotted and steelhead eggs have been shipped to Mt. Whitney Hatchery from different stations in the state, and the resulting fry will be given wide distribution in the streams of southern California during the coming season. During the coming month we expect to open up Cottonwood Lake station, and if results are as satisfactory as during the past season we should obtain a half million or more golden trout eggs. These would be immediately transported to Mt. Whitney Hatchery and hatched for distribution in streams and lakes of the state.

WAWONA HATCHERY.

Wawona Hatchery was opened shortly after the first of May and rainbow and steelhead eggs are being forwarded from other stations. The resulting fry will be given the usual distribution in that section.

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Fig. 51. Bear Lake Hatchery, San Bernardino County, California. The output of this hatchery stocks most of the streams of southern California. Photograph by Berry.

EXPERIMENTAL HATCHERIES.

A hatchery has been established in the Yosemite Valley at a site selected for the erection of a permanent hatchery, if the results of this season's operations are satisfactory. Before erecting a permanent hatchery in this section we deemed it advisable to determine by practical experiments if conditions were favorable for fish cultural operations. Rainbow, steelhead and black-spotted trout eggs will be shipped to the station and if the experiments are successful the resulting fry will be distributed in streams and lakes of the Yosemite Valley.

An experimental hatchery to determine the suitability of the waters of the Kaweah River for hatchery purposes has been established on the Kaweah River, near the town of Hammond, Tulare County. Rainbow, steelhead and black-spotted eggs have been shipped to this station, and if the resulting fry survive they will be distributed in the waters tributary to the Kaweah River, Tulare County.

NEW EXPERIMENT ON HATCHING SALMON ARTIFICIALLY.

The California Fish and Game Commission is trying out a series of experiments with trout eggs, to determine whether or not salmon can economically and scientifically be hatched and reared in cages placed in the beds of streams. These experiments will be conducted with eggs artificially fertilized and placed in the beds at different stages of development. Later in the season when salmon eggs are available the experiment will be continued by substituting the salmon for trout eggs. The idea is not a new one, as it was suggested by Professor Cloudsley Rutter in 1899. An experiment was made by Professor Rutter at that time, but on account of an accident the result was not conclusive. The Commission will now carry on experiments to determine whether any improvement in the propagation of salmon can be made along these lines. The experiments will be under the supervision of the fish experts of the Department of Fish Culture.

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COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. SCOFIELD, Editor.

FRESH FISH USED BY REDUCTION PLANTS AT SAN PEDRO.

During the last four months millions of pounds of fresh fish have been used in the manufacture of fish meal and fertilizer. The run of fish increased to such an extent in the first part of May that the reduction plants could not handle all the fish brought in. The fishermen, however, continued to bring in large catches of sardines regardless of any idea that they could be disposed of or handled by the reduction plants.

On April 30, the Minnie F brought in 58,995 pounds of barracuda, all of which could not even be used by the reduction plants.

The total amount of fish used to manufacture fish meal and fertilizer during the months of January, February, March and April, 1919, was as follows:

	Pounds.
Sardines	15,630,067
Barracuda	58,995
Rock cod	15,254
Kingfish	9,290
Halibut	4,400
Shark	2,712
Total	15,718,006

Fig. 52. Boatloads of sardines at San Pedro, May 6, 1919. All of this fish went to the reduction works to be made into fertilizer.

went to a reduction plant. On May 6 many sardine boats arrived loaded to full capacity with sardines which later went to reduction plants to be made into fish meal. One of these boats had 26 tons of sardines on board.

All the reduction plants combined have a capacity of about 1200 tons daily. The surplus was so great the city health department ordered 185 tons of sardines dumped out at sea in one day. The sardines were in such a bad condition they

Up to June 1, over 32,000,000 pounds of sardines had been utilized by the reduction works.—EARL M. NIELSEN.

BETTER RECORDS OF CATCH NECESSARY.

In this issue of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME will be found a statement of the canned, cured and manufactured fishery products of California for the year 1918. Although most of the packers have gladly furnished the Commission with the infor-

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mation requested, considerable difficulty has been experienced in securing the record of packs made by a few firms throughout the state. Because of the lack of co-operation on the part of these few firms there are, no doubt, a number of discrepancies in the figures, not so much in the quantity as in the size and kind of container. Much of the salt fish is shown in barrels, although much of it may have been packed in smaller containers. The tuna pack reported by some firms includes individual firm and any statement or report made up and published, or furnished for publication, will be for the sole purpose of furthering and boosting a great California industry.

FIRST TUNA RECEIVED MAY 14.

The first yellow-finned tuna to reach any of the San Pedro and Long Beach canneries was received by the Van Camp Sea Food Company on May 14. The tender Undine brought approximately 13½

Fig. 53. Food fish made into fertilizer. Left, 26 tons of sardines; right 58,000 lbs. of barracuda.

their albacore pack, therefore the tuna pack shown is really more than the actual pack, while the albacore pack is short.

It will be the aim of the Commission to have the necessary blanks for the 1919 pack in the hands of all packers before the end of the year and it is hoped that all packers will co-operate with the Department of Commercial Fisheries of the Fish and Game Commission by filing a complete and accurate report of their operations for 1919 at the close of the year. This will enable the Commission to issue intelligent information on the California industry which should be of great value to all concerned. No information is given out regarding the pack of any

tons of yellow-finned tuna (*Thunnus macropterus*) from Lower California, where the above company is operating a cold storage barge and floating cannery in conjunction with its San Pedro plant.

NORTHERN BOATS JOIN FISHING FLEET.

Eleven purse seine boats have arrived at San Pedro harbor from Puget Sound points. These boats average from 60 to 65 feet in length and are equipped with heavy duty engines of from 45 to 85 horsepower. They were formerly engaged in salmon fishing, but plan to fish for tuna in southern California waters.

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FISHERMEN RECEIVE 20 CENTS FOR FIRST TUNA.

The first tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) to reach the local wholesale markets were brought in by the Peter Pan, a purse seine boat, on May 22. The total catch consisted of 3717 pounds and the fish averaged about 20 pounds each. The fishermen found an active market for their catch and received 20 cents per pound in the round.

FLOATING CANNERY BURNS.

The floating fish cannery, John G. North, which before its conversion was a sailing vessel, plying between Honolulu and San Francisco and other Pacific coast ports, was burned to the water's edge the morning of May 14 off Cape San Lucas on the coast of Lower California, according to word brought here by the fishing launch Rex. The John G. North was beached, all the crew reaching the shore safely. The loss was $50,000. The John G. North was operated by the Van Camp Sea Products Company, which has a plant at San Pedro.

NOTES FROM THE STATE FISHERIES LABORATORY.*

By WILL F. THOMPSON and ELMER HIGGINS.

GOAT FISH TAKEN IN CALIFORNIA.

Several specimens of a rare and beautiful fish hitherto unknown in southern California waters were taken by the Albacore in March, 1919. They belong to the species *Upeneus dentatus*, of the family of surmullets. The fish are small, covered with large scales, and brilliantly marked with crimson and yellow bands. A pair of long fleshy barbels extending backward from the point of the chin makes the name of "goat fish" seem appropriate.

The species is recorded as "rare" on the coast of Mexico, and has been taken only at Cape San Lucas, La Paz and Tres Marias Islands at the far end of Lower California. The specimens taken by the Albacore are from Encinitas in 21 fathoms and from Long Beach in 5 fathoms.

This is another instance of a supposedly rare fish taken by new methods of fishing. The error in assuming that such rare fish are migrants from Mexican waters, where they are abundant, is apparent.—E. H.

SPINY LOBSTER LARVÆ.

An interesting addition to our knowledge of the life of the spiny lobster provided by the collections of the Albacore, is another series of larvæ in the phyllosome stage. These specimens are similar to the ones described and figured for the first time in the January number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME and although they were taken in February, six months later than the first series, they show about the same degree of development. About two dozen were taken in surface nets in the vicinity of Osborn bank, outer Santa Barbara passage.—E. H.

ATTEMPT TO REAR GRUNION.

Following the discovery of the remarkable spawning habits of the grunion or little smelt (*Leuresthes tenuis*), the story of which by Will F. Thompson has just been published as Fish Bulletin No. 3, an attempt was made in a small way to rear the young grunion through the larval stages to the adult condition. The young were hatched from eggs taken from the beach and were placed in jars of sea water. Running water was not used, but the water was changed daily and food was added daily from tow-net collections taken from the end of the Long Beach pier.

The larvæ lived thus at about room temperature with a maximum range of 10° F. for eleven days, when the last one died. The fish, of course, had not lost their larval character in this time, but interesting and valuable observations were made on their early development, and on their food and feeding habits. The experiment also yielded experience which will be valuable in the rearing of the young of other food fishes—an undertaking which may be carried out with adequate equipment in the new laboratory.—E. H.

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 9.

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LIFE HISTORY OF FLAT-FISH.

The investigation of the life histories of various flat-fishes of southern California has been progressing satisfactorily. Fourteen species of flat-fish, Pleuronectidæ and Soleidæ, have been taken to date by the bottom nets of the Albacore and notes on their distribution and movements recorded. Material for the study of the development of several species has also been taken and is awaiting careful study. Among this material is a complete series in the development of the sand dab from the youngest larva scarcely 5 mm. long to the spawning adult. Very young stages or partial series have also been taken of the big-mouthed flounder (*Hippoglossina stomata*), the sharp-ridged flounder or turbot (*Pleuronichthys verticalis*), the lemon sole (*Parophrys vetulus*), the long-finned flounder (*Xystreurys liolepis*), two species of sand dab (*Citharichthys stigmaeus* and *C. xanthostigma*), the diamond flounder (*Hypsopsetta guttulata*), the tongue sole or San Diego sole (*Symphurus atricaudus*), and the California halibut (*Paralichthys californicus*).

The study of the California halibut has proceeded further than the rest and includes observations on the age and rate of growth, comparative sizes and numbers of the sexes, seasonal movements and migrations between banks, spawning period and egg-production, and early development.—E. H.

PORPOISE CAPTURED.

A unique experience in shooting big game was enjoyed by the naturalist aboard the Albacore when he killed a large porpoise, probably of the species *Lagenorhynchus obliquidens*, on April 19, 1919.

A school of about a dozen individuals was sighted about 35 miles west of Point Vicenti cruising on a course diagonal to that of the launch but at such speed that the launch was soon overtaken. The porpoises paused, circled about the boat several times, leaping and playing, and then resumed their original course. A lucky shot from a high powered rifle, however, caught one of the big fellows fairly in the body as he was leaping, and the rest vanished instantly. Death, which came after only a hundred yards or so of mad leaps and plunges, left the animal floating, head up, when he was easily gaffed and hauled on board with block and tackle.

The specimen was an adult male seven and one-half feet long and weighed about four hundred pounds. The skin was black on the back, head, and fins, white on the sides and belly and of satin smoothness without signs of bristles or hair as might have been expected, the porpoise being a mammal and not a fish. The skin was uniformly underlaid with a layer of dense hard blubber fully one inch in thickness, as was discovered when the animal was butchered.

Although the mouth is small and practicaly toothless, the porpoise is evidently a carnivorous animal, as the cardiac stomach contained six recently swallowed sardines of unusually large size—about one foot in length. In addition, the stomach contained about a pint of partially digested material and a quantity of fish scales.

The flesh of the porpoise is very tender, resembling beef in texture but is very dark in color. The flavor is delicate but quite different from any other meat. The body is so thick that the tenderloin supplied a great number of steaks and pot roasts of excellent quality except for the lack of streaks of fat so desirable in beef. The liver was large, closely resembling that of pork liver in flavor, and the heart baked *en casserole* was indistinguishable from that of beef. On the whole, the porpoise would be a valuable food animal if the public palate could be educated to the unusual.—E. H.

HALIBUT EATS LARGE ROCK.*

The gray cods are famous all the world over for taking into their stomachs what the fishermen term "ballast," in the shape of stones of various sizes. These are considered necessary to enable the cod to maintain an even keel during the storms which rage on the surface of the sea above them. But it is not as generally known that the halibut (*Hippoglossus*) does the same thing. Due to the kindness of Dr. F. Kermode, director of the Provincial Museum at Victoria, B. C., I am able to reproduce the following letter from a prominent fisherman of Vancouver, B. C.:

* the relations of the fisheries to

44; salaries have been more than doubled; the fishery service has been taken out of politics, and the appointment of all guardians has been entrusted to the Civil Service Commission in Ottawa. Guardians hereafter will be selected for merit only; they will do no political work, and they will devote all of their time to an effective patrol of the streams. Thus, for the first time in more than a generation, the fishery service of Cape Breton Island has been put on a business basis. We now have sixteen head guardians with a salary of $70 a month each, and twenty-eight subordinate guardians with a monthly salary of $25 each. The cost of the guardian service is about the same as it was under the old system, namely $10,400 a year; but the government is now paying that sum to forty-eight guardians instead of distributing it among 219.

STURGEON TO BE PROTECTED IN OTHER STATES.

Several years ago it was found necessary to give the sturgeon total protection in California. Other states now realize that this splendid food fish is almost exterminated and are planning to enact protective legislation. So depleted is the supply in Lake Erie and neighboring waters that Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Canada all propose to protect lake sturgeon for a three-year period beginning in 1919. Although once so common that they formed cheap food for the common people, lake sturgeon are now so scarce that only the wealthy can utilize them. Recently sturgeon have been selling up to 45 cents per pound in the New York market.

LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

NESTING OF THE BAND-TAILED PIGEON.

From an old data book of mine I am able to give the following details of the nesting of the band-tailed pigeon (*Columba fasciata*). The record shows that I discovered a nest at the head of the Lopez Canyon, about ten miles east of San Luis Obispo, in San Luis Obispo County, California, on March 30, 1895. The nest, a flimsy affair made of coarse sticks resembling that of a domestic pigeon, but larger in size, contained but one egg in an advanced state of incubation. It was placed on a live oak limb, near the end of the limb but not among thick twigs. As to identification there was no doubt as I was close enough to the bird to observe the cervical white half collar.

From personal recollection I can supply other details. The nest was built in a small oak tree on a steep hillside not over eight or ten feet from the ground and easily reached by stepping up into the tree. I had been in the habit of hunting pigeons in the fall and winter in the vicinity of Atascadero and Santa Margarita and though I used to visit Lopez Canyon every spring for a number of years never observed the birds to remain there in the spring except this one season. On this particular day I saw perhaps half a dozen pairs of the birds around different parts of the canyon which, in those days at least, was probably not visited more than once or twice a year by anybody. I saw one other nest located within a hundred yards or so of the one above described, but placed so far out on slender limbs above the head of the canyon that it was totally inaccessible.—NATHAN MORAN.

WILDCAT EATS BIRDS.

On March 10, 1919, I killed a female California wildcat (*Lynx eremicus californicus*) near Coulterville, California, which had been feeding entirely on song birds. The stomach contained the remains of six western robins.—DONALD D. MCLEAN.

A DEATH STRUGGLE BETWEEN BUCKS.

While hunting mountain lions on April 26, 1919, east of Squaw Creek in Shasta County, California, I came upon

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some locked antlers (shown in the accompanying photograph, Fig. 54. The evidence was clear. There had been a fight between two bucks (owners of these antlers), occurring, probably, some time last November. In the heat of the battle their horns had become interlocked so tightly that they fell without disentangling them. The arena for this buck struggle covered an area of about twenty-five square feet in the corner of a meadow bordering on a small mountain lake. The bucks in their fury had trampled down the grass and vegetation and had even in places plowed up the ground with their hoofs. After a desperate struggle either the animals were overcome by exhaustion or famished from hunger and thirst. Winter came on, and coyotes and other predatory animals prowling around in search of something to devour made a delicious meal on their carcasses, leaving, however, the locked antlers in the condition in which I later found them.—JAY C. BRUCE.

Fig. 54. Locked antlers of deer found on Squaw Creek, Shasta County, by Jay C. Bruce. The death of more than one large buck is due to the locking of the antlers when fighting.

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REPORTS.

Canned, Cured and Manufactured Fishery Products of California for the Year 1918, Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries.

CANNED.

	San Diego, cases	San Pedro, cases	Northern California, cases	Total cases
Abalone—				
1-pound		300	1,425	1,725
Albacore—				
1-pound		17,392		17,392
½-pound		56,214		56,214
¼-pound		9,195		9,195
Anchovy—				
5-pound			1,522	1,522
4-pound			227	227
½-pound			450	450
Barracuda—				
½-pound	24			24
Bonito and skipjack—				
1-pound	765	2,012		2,777
½-pound	9,527	48,342		57,869
¼-pound	12,310	5,395		17,705
Herring—				
1-pound (oval)			58,330	58,330
½-pound			5,817	5,817
Mackerel—				
1-pound		3,450		3,450
½-pound		4,008		4,008
Sablefish—				
1-pound			25	25
Salmon—				
1-pound (tall)			8,395	8,395
1-pound (flat)			3,304	3,304
1-pound (oval)			197	197
½-pound (flat)			22,540	22,540
Sardines—				
1-pound (oval)	17,790	186,632	563,315	747,737
½-pound (oval)	174	3,788	13,344	17,306
1-pound (round)		138,879		138,879
½-pound (round)	1,101	228,139	943	230,240
¼-pound (round)		51,841		51,841
1-pound (square)		50,076		50,076
½-pound (square), tomato	19,568	70,850	3,716	94,134
½-pound (square), oil			4,349	4,349
½-pound (square)			133	133
¼-pound (square)	67,785	78,756	3,997	150,538
Shad—				
1-pound			5,056	5,056
Shad roe—				
½-pound			2,213	2,213
Skipjack—				
½-pound	42			42
Tuna*—				
1-pound	5,788	33,825		39,613
½-pound	41,652	164,744		206,396
¼-pound	2,647	29,404		33,051
4½-pound		268		268
Turtle—				
1-pound	300	199		499
½-pound	100	29		129
Yellowtail—				
1-pound	8,328	2,824		11,152
½-pound	31,737	28,537		60,274
¼-pound	405			405

*Includes some albacore.

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Canned, Cured and Manufactured Fishery Products of California for the Year 1918, Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries—Continued.

SALTED FISH.

	San Diego	San Pedro	Northern California	Totals
Anchovy—				
Barrels	----	20	310	330
25-pound cans	----	----	2,600	2,600
5-pound cans	----	----	1,000	1,000
Barracuda—				
Barrels	450	5	----	455
Black sea bass—				
Barrels	53	----	----	53
Bonito—				
Barrels	12	17	----	29
Mackerel—				
Barrels	110	380	1,521	2,011
18-pound kit	----	----	6	6
Rock bass—				
Barrels	9	42	----	51
Rock cod—				
Barrels	9	2	----	11
Sablefish—				
Barrels	----	----	72	72
Salachini—				
100-pound tubs	----	----	5,955	5,955
65-pound tubs	----	----	10,899	10,899
50-pound tubs	----	----	12,329	12,329
Salmon—				
Casks (mild cured)	----	----	2,796	2,796
Sardines—				
Barrels	2	852	107	961
40-pound barrels	----	----	1,252	1,252
25-pound cans	----	----	1,200	1,200
18-pound kits	----	----	6	6
Sea bass—				
Barrels	29	----	----	29
Shad—				
Casks (mild cured)	----	----	287	287
Yellowfin—				
Barrels	----	35	----	35
Yellowtail—				
Barrels	425	76	----	501

NOTE.—Casks contain 800 pounds net; barrels, 200 pounds net.

Canned, Cured and Manufactured Fishery Products of California for the Year 1918, Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries—Continued.

MISCELLANEOUS PACK AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

	San Diego	San Pedro	Northern California	Totals
Albacore—				
Smoked, pounds	----	31,420	----	31,420
Kingfish—				
Dried, pounds	----	19,000	----	19,000
Sardines—				
Dried, pounds	----	37,000	----	37,000
Scotch cured, pounds	----	4,620	----	4,620
Yellowtail—				
Smoked, pounds	----	1,000	----	1,000
Fertilizer, tons	----	1,521	----	1,521
Fish meal, tons	1,123	3,216	2,874	7,213
Fish oil, gallons	17,400	67,858	261,466	346,724
Number of plants	13	34	40	87
Number of employees	1,427	2,783	3,829	8,039
Value of plants	$1,316,000	$2,773,990	$1,569,330	$5,658,990

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California Fishery Products for Year of 1918.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Sutter, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa	Alameda, Contra Costa
Albacore							
Anchovy	100		11,300				
Barracuda							
Bonito							
Bocaccio		1,603	2,061				
Bluefish							
Chilipepper							
Carp		14,834	8,250	23,296	60,204	3,308	26 265
Catfish		90,210		14,571	52,745	4,486	42,150
Croakers							
Coalfish			19				
Cultus cod	1,848	32,413	8,424				
Dolphin							
Dogfish			78,070				6
Flounder	14,793		732	1,522			3 077
Hardhead					10,848	7,309	9,704
Halibut	30 346	61,096	1,140				
Hake			8				
Herring	7,311		3,190,686				1,500
Kingfish			10				
Mackerel							
Marlin							
Mullet							
Pike			1,285	494	1,894	730	8,790
Pompano			3				
Perch	32,089	258	66,183				105
Rock bass							
Rockfish	57,408	6,500	716				
Sole	171		78				
Salmon	1,234,653	1,097,771	172,660	2,306,800	565,534	41,701	2,957,493
Smelt	13,209		24,012				316
Shad (roe)				194,549	35,108		673,237
Sea bass (white)			10,921				
Shad (buck)				159,921	13,990		241,015
Sea bass (black)							
Sanddab							
Suckers					6,719	190	378
Striped bass			22,773	353.100	113.578	5,066	751 890
Shad			1,639	224,773	104,813	2,069	671,804
Surf fish							
Stingaree			151,500				
Sturgeon							
Sardine	908	240	451				
Skipjack							
Skate							
Sheepshead							
Sculpin							
Splittail					3,139	3,736	1,115
Sea trout							
Swordfish							
Tom cod							
Trout (farm)							
Trout (steelhead)	21,819						
Tuna							
Turbot			3,067				
Whitebait		100	9.297				
Yellowtail							
Miscellaneous	2,000				3,640	3,251	41
Total fish	1,416 605	1,3 5,025	3,765,305	3,278,026	972,602	71,923	5 449,407
Crustaceans—							
Crab (dozen)	4,128						18
Spiny lobster							
Shrimp							
Ecrevisse							
Mollusks -							
Squid			85				
Cuttlefish		100	10				
Clam (Pismo)							
Clam (cockle)			23,052				
Clam (softshell)	1 095	13,105	125.575				173 278
Clam (mixed)	20,211	1,867	72,842				10,780
Oyster, eastern (shell), number			885 811				
Oyster, native, pounds			39,279				
Abalones	1,935	405					
Sea snails							
Mussels	700		673				4,297
Reptiles -							
Terrapin (dozen)			25				
Sea turtles							

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Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries.

San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Totals	Mexico
----	39	5,084	918	6,434,770	230	822,854	----	7,263,895	1,527
257,170	----	540,323	----	49,392	----	9,566	----	867,851	310
17,160	66,899	37,572	41,185	1,988,598	9,343	1,724,934	----	3,885,691	951,598
----	33,541	6,007	13,046	978,120	363	1,233,087	----	2,264,164	176,667
49,351	106,081	1,083,074	----	----	----	----	----	1,242,170	----
----	558	69,340	----	185	----	----	----	70,083	----
209,172	89,587	54,622	----	----	----	----	----	353,381	----
32,073	----	----	----	79,859	----	----	----	312,774	----
712	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	204,876	----
----	----	----	----	56,031	----	11,095	----	67,126	----
478,844	3,593	11,530	----	4,221	730	----	----	498,937	----
440,756	123,853	300,432	----	1,613	457	----	----	915,836	----
----	----	----	----	741	----	----	----	741	----
274 089	500	11,359	----	14,731	----	21,711	----	400,478	2,615
716,080	47,178	27,243	----	6,679	240	1,291	----	818,835	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	27,801	----
40,900	8,619	25,544	309,378	1,145,734	13,974	1,301,166	----	2,837,987	1,915,704
143,678	47,312	2,019	64	17,094	----	8,496	----	218,672	5,360
4,732 883	5,900	----	----	----	----	----	----	7,938,290	----
62,726	83,342	154,128	734	650,281	349	23,525	----	975,096	----
----	973	1,489,163	4,497	2,346,048	6,242	158,983	----	4,005,906	70,178
----	----	----	----	2,275	----	----	----	2,275	----
----	----	----	----	30,267	----	----	59,390	89,657	1,745
172	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	13,365	----
1,786	2,752	6,699	44	12,876	----	100	----	24,260	----
52,810	10,180	6,551	1,616	26,771	374	1,280	----	198,167	365
----	----	----	6,393	535,375	3,644	231,233	----	776,645	7,219
1,340,106	644,450	1,109,737	123,395	1,575,558	25,512	1,398,043	----	6,281,425	12,912
4,696,906	1,893,705	293,529	85,749	53,110	166	4,353	----	7,027,767	----
1,756,134	209,923	2,662,953	----	1,065	----	----	----	13,026,076	----
2 3,900	32,550	164,398	30,747	196,809	76,910	46,082	----	758,923	8,061
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	902,894	----
40,413	171,895	59,137	64,648	1,015,478	1,054	88,942	----	1,452,478	154,853
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	414,926	----
----	----	248	6,184	97,432	2,989	103,599	----	210,432	38,363
1,330,057	308,408	41,154	----	21,970	25	----	----	1,751,609	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	7,267	----
161,353	47	94	----	----	----	----	----	1,407,841	----
60,717	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	1,065,815	----
----	----	----	----	4,888	----	----	----	4,888	----
----	----	----	----	300	----	----	----	151,900	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
852,026	559,265	64,915,002	42	78,077,612	----	13,207,265	----	157,652,811	----
----	728	155	----	3,019,686	135	3,145	----	3,023,847	----
232,801	2,090	4,078	425	6,809	28	----	----	246,231	----
----	----	----	45	8,605	----	13,838	----	22,488	490
165	----	2	----	28,156	----	81	----	28,404	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	7,980	----
----	----	----	----	4,902	941	346	----	6,189	----
----	----	----	----	17,862	----	580	----	18,442	----
8,756	55	----	----	39,506	159	----	----	48,536	----
1,657	1,781	----	----	----	----	392	----	3,830	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	21,819	----
----	315	1,580	1,174	5,807,961	----	429,941	----	6,240,971	----
----	----	----	525	52	----	----	----	3,664	----
108,053	----	81	18,326	----	----	----	----	135,857	----
21,580	124,052	137,261	20,782	5,926,021	1,060	5,427,563	----	11,658,259	139,946
93,305	1,001	36,868	14,928	139,409	3,175	31,940	----	329,614	264,163
18,518,432	4,561,108	73,276,952	744,845	110,424,912	148,078	26,295,431	59,390	250,218,041	3,752,071
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
62,079	707	531	----	----	----	----	----	67,158	----
----	----	----	29,979	120,796	2,611	42,364	----	196,750	735,077
722,178	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	722,178	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
1,970	850	301,007	----	43,376	----	14,426	----	361,714	----
14,583	4,406	13,268	----	372	----	----	----	32,739	----
----	517	----	665,167	----	----	----	----	665,684	----
----	----	----	160	21,121	----	----	----	44,933	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	313,043	----
344	252	340	1,359	21,089	----	----	----	129,084	----
5,302,210	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	6,188,021	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	39,279	----
----	----	365,986	183,863	50,730	----	----	----	6 2,919	----
----	----	----	----	1,461	----	----	----	1,461	----
5,334	4,270	600	9,954	21,251	600	580	----	48,319	835
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	25	----
----	----	----	----	----	----	18,135	----	18,135	12,496

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CALIFORNIA FISHERY PRODUCTS.

Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries, January, February, March, 1919.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Glenn, Colusa, Sutter, Butte	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexico
Albacore												348		30		378	13,647
Anchovy										9,120		114,500		100		123,720	
Barracuda								13			35,575	37,653		101,498		174,739	434,451
Bonito											50	75,653		3,853		79,556	91,542
Bocaccio								8,056	38,213	498,090						544,299	
Bluefish								9,540		15,172						24,712	
Chilipepper										13,444						13,444	
Carp		3,660		2,332	62,428	80	40,956	335				50				109,841	
Catfish		23,313		3,569	20,488		5,174									52,544	
Coalfish								75			18	132				225	
Cultus cod	300							117,198	18,177	50,246		26				185,942	
Dogfish				11				74,940	235	100	2,530	18,994		55,162		151,972	
Flounder	10,095		454				2,233	64,897	21,216			6,092				104,974	
Halibut	43							16,604	2,652	927	64,751	597,768	12,048	105,622		800,415	175,004
Hardhead					24,744		1,416									26,160	
Hake								483	1,156			9,452		770		11,861	755
Herring	6,419		3,714,638				59,822	470,891	350							4,252,170	
Kingfish			32					21,743	10,087	5,553	961	254,802	43	6,920		300,141	55
Mackerel									29	216,018	164	38,795	33	6,556		261,595	2,640
Mullet															2,359	2,359	
Pike				433	1,410	10	2,532									4,385	
Pompano			2					4	200	206		44,836	32	66		45,346	
Perch	15,824		16,767				46	5,918	9,608	2,608		2,542		12		53,325	
Rock bass												16,053	85	25,478		41,616	6,905
Rockfish	1,106							576,596	150,768	151,935	30,305	630,140	2,716	312,295		1,855,861	39,470
Sole								1,056,534	116,820	13,825	43,626	46,034		4,134		1,280,973	
Salmon	963			40,099	15,208	71,605	137,553	1,646	1,687	216,430						484,491	
Smelt	6,913		11,045				245	71,798	2,612	1,307	1,087	43,266	23,882	23,720		185,875	1,875
Sea bass (white)			719					265	165	135	651	57,357	56	6,963		65,211	3,425
Sea bass (black)												10,389	791	9,631		20,811	815
Sanddab								139,207	11,177	158		2,585		651		153,778	
Suckers					3,276											3,276	
Striped bass			810	62,347	10,702		153,898	20,923								248,680	
Shad, roe				837	51		12,301									13,219	

Shad				11,926	4,221		15,048	821							32,018	
Shad, buck				615			18,901								19,516	
Splittail					12,567		10,490								23,057	
Sardine								11,745	395,840	16,778,984		29,905,390		4,780,739	51,162,707	
Skate								112,659	908		150	7,319	475		121,511	
Stingaree								4,000						824	4,824	
Sculpin												3,915		104	4,019	
Skipjack												210			210	
Sea trout												1,655	15	862	2,532	42
Sheepshead												5,298		8,342	13,640	
Tom cod								8,018							8,018	
Trout (lake)																
Trout (steelhead)																
Turbot				90											90	
Tuna												789		123	912	
Whitebait				367				1,647							2,014	
Yellowtail												178,889	180	39,376	218,454	11,253
Miscellaneous	356							21,413	505	1,370	12,476	124,085	1,472	1,339	162,966	10,804
Total fish	41,319	26,973	3,744,974	122,081	155,125	71,785	460,615	2,817,964	772,392	17,975,568	192,374	81,534,976	41,837	5,494,140	2,359	63,454,482	792,183
Crustaceans—																
Crab (dozen)	721							8,196	285	79					9,281	
Spiny lobster											5,093	43,786	3,912	7,466	60,257	198,580
Shrimp								137,886							137,886	
Ecrevisse																
Mollusks—																
Squid												1,119		445	1,564	
Cuttlefish				36				2,292	608	4,878		72			7,886	
Clam (Pismo)									75		110,126				110,201	
Clam (cockle)			3,874								* 560	2,649			7,083	
Clam (softshell)	3,307		13,204				62,472				2,228	218			78,983	
Clam (mixed)	9,760	626	10,086												22,918	
*Oyster (shell), No.			359,256					1,900,700							2,259,956	
Oyster (native), No.			14,856												14,856	
Abalones									225	26,220	39,891				66,336	
Mussels	380						1,535		940	925	6,313	1,266		100	11,459	
Sea snails												653			653	
Reptiles—																
Terrapin (dozen)		62													62	

*Eastern.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 5 SACRAMENTO, OCTOBER, 1919 Number 4

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SOME NOTES ON DRY-FLY FISHING.

By R. L. M., California.

There is really no mystery in connection with dry-fly fishing; everybody who has fished with the wet fly must have noticed that the first time that a new or dry-fly is cast on the water, that it remains on the surface; in other words, it floats. As soon as the fly becomes wet it ceases to float and thus becomes a wet fly. Now, dry-fly fishing merely consists in keeping the fly dry, and if it should become wet, of drying it with as little loss of time as possible.

Owing to more or less recent discoveries, several aids have been found which greatly assist the fisherman in keeping his fly from becoming waterlogged. The most important of these is the "oil tip." The honor of this discovery belongs to the late Thomas Andrews, of Surrey, England, who obtained it from Colonel Hawker, a descendant of Colonel Peter Hawker (Diary 1802-53; "Hints to Young Sportsmen"). "Odorless paraffine" is the fluid generally mentioned. This is not always easy to obtain. However, there is another oil that from my own personal experience is equally efficacious. I refer to the well known and useful "3 in 1." The best method of applying "3 in 1" to a fly is to dip the fly in the oil, then lay it on a piece of

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blotting paper to drain while breakfast is being eaten. A fly treated in this manner will continue to float bone dry until it is worn out or the day's fishing is over.

Another very useful thing to have at the waterside is a piece of amadou. This substance, which looks like leather, is a fungus that has the property of rapidly absorbing moisture. If the fly is *very wet* it can be pressed between a folded piece of amadou and nearly all the moisture is removed.

But all said and done, most of the drying out of a fly is done by switching or casting the fly back and forth in the air. Anybody who is able to throw a fly can in a very short time learn how to do this without snapping off his fly.

The first thing to remember is that the fly should not be thrown *at* the water. Learn how to cast the fly so that all the impetus imparted to the line is used up by the time the fly is still *above* the surface of the water, and allow the fly to fall of its own weight on the water.

Now, when this feat can be accomplished with ease, instead of letting the fly fall on the water, make a backward stroke similar to that which is made when picking the line and fly off the water; this will extend the line behind. A series of three or four of these backward and forward strokes (which are called false casts) are made between each true cast, and this action called "drying the fly" is the principal thing that differentiates between wet and dry-fly fishing. Of course, there are other things to be taken into account, about which I hope to say more at some later date, but the whole secret consists of being able to throw the fly backwards and forwards in the air without permitting it to touch the water in front or the ground behind. When that can be done the major part of the art is conquered.

In actual practice the false casts will be made at an elevation corresponding roughly to the top of the rod, whether the overhead or horizontal cast is being used.

I strongly advise the beginner to commence his dry-fly fishing with hackle flies, for the following reason: A hackle fly, having no wings, is always "cocked up"; whereas, a winged fly should float with its wings standing up in the air, and placing such a fly on the water properly "cocked up" does not come to one overnight. But as soon as the beginner becomes proficient in putting a hackle fly lightly on the water he can switch to the winged variety and note results. If the fly persists in floating on its side, *i.e.*, with one or other wing in the water, it shows that there was too much force used in making the cast; because the fly, instead of falling of its own weight onto the surface, was propelled thereon, with sufficient force to topple it over on its side. As time goes on, however, the fly will more often fall correctly and float lightly on the surface with an extraordinary resemblance to the natural insect.

Do not become discouraged if you do not become an expert dry-fly fisherman in a few days. Have patience and be persevering and in a surprisingly short time, all things considered, you will find yourself accomplishing things you once considered almost impossible. The great test of the art is to be able to tell when a fly is dry or otherwise, by the feel of the line when making the false or drying casts. When you can do this your novitiate is in the past.

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NOTE ON THE HABITS AND USE OF THE SMALL SAND CRAB (Emerita analoga).*

By FRANK W. WEYMOUTH, Stanford University.

Of the many baits used for surf and pier fishing in southern California, few are more popular than the "soft-shelled" sand crab, of which numbers may be seen for sale in the fish markets on the piers at Santa Monica, Venice, Long Beach, Coronado and other coast towns. Some recent observations on its habits suggested that those who use it as bait might be interested in its mode of life and where it may be caught.

The small sand crab, as it may be called to distinguish it from a larger form also found in the sand, or more technically *Emerita analoga*, is found on sandy beaches exposed to the open ocean along the entire coast of California, but never in bays or other sheltered locations. The reason for this will be clear when we have considered its feeding habits. At the level washed by the waves it burrows in the sand, and is found grouped in beds which can be recognized even at a distance by peculiar diamond-shaped ripple marks in the water running off the sand after the breaking of the wave. These ripples are caused by the feathered "feelers," or antennæ, of the sand crab, which it thrusts up into the receding wave. With these it combs from the water the microscopic animals and plants upon which it feeds.

If one has patience to wade into such a bed and wait quietly until the crabs have recovered from their first alarm, the interesting process of feeding may easily be watched. As the water clears of sand after the inrush of the wave, dozens of pairs of the plume-like antennæ will be seen to pop out of the sand into the seaward-running water, where they remain until the wave drains off, occasionally disappearing for a fraction of a second to be freed of their catch of tiny organisms. Corresponding to this habit of feeding on material too fine to be chewed, the jaws, which have hard-cutting edges in other crabs, are here small, soft, degenerate vestiges.

If a shovel is thrust into the sand of one of these "beds" it will turn out scores of these crabs which "dig in" again so rapidly that few can be caught. If numbers are wanted the best way to catch them is to shovel the sand, crabs and all, into a box having wire screen in the sides, and let the sand be washed out by the waves as they sweep in and out. Another but less efficient method sometimes practiced is to hold a screen across one of the sand gullies found in this part of the beach and so catch the crabs which happen to be swimming about in the receding wave.

Observations recently made show that the crabs move up and down the beach with the tides so that the beds may always be found in the area washed by the waves, and here they may easily be recognized by the ripple marks already mentioned.

Crabs caught by any of these methods will be noticed to differ much in size. In this species, unlike most of the crustacea, the males are much smaller than the females, and it will be found during the breeding season, which falls in the summer months, that only the

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 8.

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larger specimens are carrying egg masses. The "soft-shelled" crabs are, of course, not a separate form, but only those that have recently molted or cast their shells, a process occurring yearly in most crustaceans, and that have not yet hardened their new shells. According to observations just made, the molting of the large females apparently occurs just before spawning and in advance of the molting of the males, and it is these "soft" females which are collected as bait for surf fishing. Fish are apparently used to feeding on these crabs, which in their soft state have more difficulty in burrowing into the sand than at ordinary times and are therefore more likely to be found swimming about at the bottom. The fisherman, in using the "soft-shelled" sand crab, is therefore offering to the fish one of its customary dainties, and it is readily accepted.

GAME CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

By M. HALL McALLISTER.

In 1885, I spent the summer and fall in and near Colton, Riverside and San Bernardino, in southern California, and most of the months of September, October and November in riding and hunting all over that part of California. My companion was a rancher, V. C. Reche, who was one of the best shots, deer trackers and general all-round hunters to be found anywhere.

We had one week's hunt on the Santa Margarita, also known as the Juan Foster-Dick O'Neill-Flood property, near Oceanside. Our party of four bagged fourteen deer and could have killed double the number, but stopped shooting because they were nearly as tame as sheep.

There were then some antelope just south of Riverside, and I have now the horns of a buck killed not far from San Jacinto Mountain, near where the town of Hemet now stands. Mountain sheep could then be found in either the San Bernardino or San Jacinto ranges, and my hunting friend Reche had killed several. I also remember a miner who reported a very large grizzly as coming daily to the mountain side near a mine to feed on the berries. This mine was on the desert side of the Cajon Pass where the Santa Fe Railway comes down from Barstow. Mountain lions were also plentiful all through these ranges. I remember a friend reporting that while riding through a canyon not far from his ranch he suddenly came on a bunch of five lions feeding on a dead calf, and as he had no weapon with him he thought best to make a quiet sneak.

On the San Jacinto plains south of Riverside were a few springs, and to these the quail came in countless thousands to water, and at nearly each one of them we found a brush hut and a V-shaped trough placed there by the quail market hunters. Reche and I went around and burned up each and every one of these "slaughter pens" and got ourselves somewhat disliked when the news leaked out as to who had done it.

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When the quail season opened in September we had many splendid hunts, but no potting was allowed, wing shooting only; and with birds so plentiful, we had wonderful sport. I remember one hunt where we slept out at one of these San Jacinto plains springs and in the morning saw the enormous bands of quail coming up for water. It made one's blood tingle with excitement. The ground for hundreds of yards all around was a moving mass of thousands of running birds. We hid in the brush and let them come in to water, then suddenly jumped up with a shout and succeeded in scattering the flock so that in an hour's shooting we had bagged 97 quail, all wing shots. We did not move more than one hundred yards from the spring, as every rock on the hillside had from one to a dozen quail under it.

Mr. Reche stated that when the Sunset Route of the Southern Pacific started in 1880, many young men in southern California started hunting quail for the San Francisco market, but that nearly all the quail rotted in the sacks before reaching San Francisco, so that the business proved unprofitable. Before refrigeration could be arranged, the big bands of quail were all killed off. He stated that with his brother he started to shoot for the market, but his returns did not pay the express charges and the cost of powder and shot. He stated that by actual count he picked up 363 quail as a result of eleven pot shots of his old muzzle loader at the spring where we found the V-shaped trough. This was an average of 33 birds to each shot, and he said he would wait until the trough was actually covered with quail before he would shoot.

Coming back to recollections in and around my home in San Francisco, I remember that in the summer of 1875 I visited a camp of young men in the mountains back of Pescadero, in San Mateo County. This was in July and there was a game law against shooting quail, but these men, "just for the fun of it," were potting quail by the hundreds and had a large sack full; in fact, so many that their camp could not eat them and we were invited to "help yourself if you will keep your mouth shut."

In the California Market, San Francisco, in the seasonal months from September to February, the oyster cafes served "quail on toast, 25c," and when I lunched there my daily order was this most palatable dish.

Remembering the adage, "You can not eat 30 quail in 30 days," I tried and accomplished the feat. It was supposed the adage came from the idea that a person could not obtain quail on each day of thirty consecutive days or that you would so tire of them that you could not carry out your bargain. However, as stated above, I did obtain and did eat a quail each day for thirty consecutive days. I might state that the restaurant had a fine cook who understood how to prepare them with plenty of butter, and they were delicious.

As I was working and had to keep regular office hours in San Francisco, most of my hunting was on Saturdays and Sundays and occasional holidays and vacations. I have a journal and record book of all my hunts from 1877 down to the present year, 1919, just forty-two years. Most of the shooting has been at ducks and geese on the Suisun marsh, where I was a member of the Cordelia and Ibis shooting clubs.

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A CASE OF DESTRUCTION OF PISMO CLAMS BY OIL.*

By PROFESSOR FRANK WALTER WEYMOUTH, of Stanford University, California.

That crude oil is harmful to marine and fresh water animals has been so generally recognized that most states, including California, have passed laws designed to protect their waters from oil by providing penalties for those who allow it to escape. Definite instances proving its destructive effect though present, for instance in the case of water birds, are not numerous, and for this and other reasons convictions are not always easy to obtain. It is claimed by the clam diggers at Pismo and Oceano that oil is chiefly responsible for the decrease in the supply of Pismo clams. It is hoped that at another

Fig. 55. Oil cakes on the beach near Pismo. The size may be judged by comparison with the cap. Photograph by W. E. Weymouth.

time it will be possible to present an analysis of this claim and of other factors influencing the abundance of this important food mollusk, the data for which are not now available, but an instance of the effect of oil which recently came under the writer's notice may here be put on record.

Sometimes oil reaches the beach from tanks on the shore near Avila, but the most important source is from the water ballast discharged by vessels coming to load oil at Port San Luis. This can not reach the beach at Morro around the projecting "Pecho" coast against the prevailing winds, but is blown on the beaches at Pismo and Oceano at times in considerable quantities as bathers at these resorts are

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 11.

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well aware. One such instance was observed by the writer on June 1 of the present year, when along more than a mile of the beach just south of Pismo large masses of fresh oil were found scattered over the wet sand exposed at low tide. The appearance at two points is shown by the accompanying photographs, from which the size and abundance of the oil cakes may be judged. In fact, at this time it was impossible for a bather to cross the beach without getting so much oil on his feet as to make a gasoline footbath necessary. Many old cakes well mixed with sand and free of the thinner oils may be seen at any time high up on the beach, showing that the occurrence is by no means rare. On the date mentioned the lighter parts of the oil, churned up by the surf into an emulsion, were found sweeping back and forth across the sand at the tip of the advancing waves, and in this were large numbers of small animals either dead or so feeble as no longer to be able to burrow. About a quart of small clams, chiefly razor shells (*Siliqua*), but including some thirty small Pismo clams (*Tivela*), together with a few sand crabs (*Emerita*) and some worms were picked up in a few minutes. All were smeared with oil; some of the clams were dead and gaping, others were alive, but too feeble to keep up the constant burrowing necessary to maintain their place in the sand from which the waves had washed them. Whether the oil killed them directly or, what is more probable, by filming over the sand cut off the supply of air, could not be determined. But that they were killed by the oil can not be doubted, as examination of the beaches for two or three weeks before and after this date seldom showed even a single dead clam except in the presence of oil.

With this clear proof of the destructive effect of the oil on such an important food animal as the Pismo clam, there can be no excuse for tolerating the escape of oil, especially as it has been proved possible by devices in use on many tankers not only to prevent its escape, but to save the oil thus usually lost.

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If you are inclined to criticise the Fish and Game Commission, read the following criticisms and the defense.

If you believe in the work of the Commission, inform yourself more fully as to the accomplishments of the past few years.

ACCUSATIONS AND THE DEFENSE.

Resolution by Mr. Eden, Introduced in the State Legislature April 1, 1919, and referred to Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Economy.

WHEREAS, The Fish and Game Commission of this state, and its several members, officers and assistants, are, by virtue of the very large power and authority given to them by law, in a position to exert great influence for or against legislation pending before this Assembly; and

WHEREAS, It is said that certain of said officers and members have in fact sought to influence pending legislation; and

WHEREAS, Said Fish and Game Commission and certain of its members, assistants and employees have been derelict in the performance of the duties imposed upon them by law; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Efficiency and Economy of this Assembly be and it is hereby, directed to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the following specific matters:

1. To ascertain what, if any, fishing clubs, gun clubs and private game preserves, any of the said commissioners, or the officers, assistants or employees of said Fish and Game Commission, are affiliated with; and whether or not any of said officers, assistants or employees have been, by reason of such affiliation, perniciously active in supporting or opposing any legislation now pending before this Assembly; and whether or not they have shown any favoritism, in any manner, towards any gun or fishing club members; and whether or not they have, by reason of their said membership, sought to set up and perpetuate in this state, against the interests and wishes of the common people, the European system of a monopoly in the control and use of wild fish and game, which is peculiarly the property of all the people.

2. Why it is that within the past nine years said commission has, without any satisfactory explanation, dismissed three certain executive officers of said commission, each of whom was reputed to be a faithful and efficient public servant.

3. How much of the time of the present attorney of said commission is devoted to the duties of his state office, and how much of it is devoted to his own private law practice; the latter of which is said to be very large and lucrative.

4. Why said commission collected from the people of the State, during the four years ending June 30, 1918, the enormous sum of $837,409.25, of which the sum of $708,310.75 was expended; whether or not said sum so spent was not unwisely and extravagantly used. Also recommend some legislation that will reduce the amount of money collected by said commission at least $30,000 per annum. Also to ascertain if it is not advisable that the expenditure of such a large fund should be made by the governing body of the State, upon appropriations, instead of by said commission, as is now done, without any control of the Legislature whatever.

5. Why it is that for the two years ending June 30, 1918, the police work of the commission fell off about 15 per cent over the preceding two years (see last report to Governor, page 88); notwithstanding said commission is charged with the enforcement of laws for the preservation of fish and game, and notwithstanding more people hunted and fished during said period ending June 30, 1918, than before; and notwithstanding reports of frequent and flagrant violations of the fish and game laws were reported in the press and otherwise throughout the state.

6. Why said commission expended the enormous sum of $68,272.21 to establish and a large sum since for additions to a trout hatchery in Inyo County, for the purpose, as avowed by the said commission, of stocking the streams of southern California and the western slope of the southern Sierra Nevadas, when it was obvious to any person that said location could not be a success for the following reasons:

a. That there were no waters nearby needing to be stocked.

b. That it was impossible to obtain a sufficient supply of trout eggs in that vicinity for hatching purposes.

c. The great distance the hatchery product must be transported at heavy expense.

d. The hatchery product must be transported through the heat of the Mojave desert before they reach the waters intended to be stocked.

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7. To ascertain the cost of maintenance and operation of said hatchery in Inyo County, and whether the said cost is not extravagantly expensive and out of all proportion to the benefit derived by the people of the state, and likely to be a growing burden and expense; also the person from whom the ground was purchased and the then owners of adjacent property and the price paid therefor.

8. To ascertain whether or not the commission is making any intelligent and sufficient effort to obtain accurate first-hand information relative to the present status and condition of the game and fish of the state; and whether or not by reason of failure to procure such information many species of game and fish have reached the point of actual extinction, with others in the same dangerous stage of diminution, before proper conservation measures can be proposed to this Assembly.

9. Why said commission has permitted the Truckee River, one of the most beautiful streams in the world, and a famous fishing ground, to remain polluted for years by the waste products from a paper mill located at Floriston, California, notwithstanding popular complaint and objection by the citizens, not only of our state, but also by the people of our sister state, Nevada, whose principal city obtains its domestic water supply from said river; and notwithstanding said commission is required by law, and clothed with all lawful authority, to prevent the pollution of streams. Why it is that in the face of the law said commission has deliberately and wilfully failed and refused to do its plain duty, thereby constituting a clear and flagrant malfeasance in office, and one that should be severely dealt with by the proper authorities.

10. Why it is that the ocean waters of San Luis Obispo County and the waters of San Pablo and San Francisco bays, and other navigable fishing waters in the state, have been for years, and are now, being polluted with crude petroleum, oil refinery refuse and other substances deleterious to fish life, in violation of law; notwithstanding it is the duty of the Fish and Game Commission strictly and impartially to enforce the law against such pollution.

11. To ascertain whether or not, throughout the state, in irrigated districts, many canals and irrigating ditches are diverting water from streams that contain fish, without using screens to prevent the loss of fish; and thereby millions of trout, bass and other valuable food and game fishes are annually killed and wasted.

12. To ascertain to what extent dams and other artificial obstructions are being suffered by the said commission to be maintained in the streams of the state without proper fish ladders, and whether or not by such neglect and dereliction of duty on the part of said commission, millions of trout, and other migratory fish, are prevented from reaching proper "spawning beds," with a resultant loss of a great quantity of fish spawn and fish.

13. To ascertain if it is not true that the Fish and Game Commission has failed and neglected to take advantage of that provision in the law authorizing the creation of game refuges on private land holdings, resulting in game, in many sections where hunting is intensive, failing to receive proper and adequate protection.

14. Why said commission has discontinued a branch office established at the request of the people of the San Joaquin Valley; thus making less effective the supervision of police and other conservation activities in that important and developing region; and thereby, and through other activities, having lost to the state the services of one of the most efficient and conscientious fish and game conservationists in the country.

15. To ascertain if it is not true that said commission has wasted large sums of the people's money in unscientific and impractical experiments at its game farm at Hayward, California, and has finally abandoned said farm.

16. To ascertain if it is not true that the distribution of fish, as carried on by said commission, is unscientific, unduly expensive and results in the destruction each year of a large proportion of the fish so distributed.

17. To ascertain if it is not true that because said commission has failed to investigate and prevent enormous losses occurring among the millions of young salmon propagated and distributed each year after they leave the hatcheries, the salmon fisheries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers are not being kept in a healthful and thriving condition.

18. To ascertain to what extent, if any, said commission has, within the past eight years, been governed by political, personal and other insufficient and improper motives, in its acts in the following particulars:

a. The dismissal of trained and efficient employees.

b. The employment, promotion and otherwise rewarding of assistants and employees not deserving of such consideration.

c. The failure to promote certain assistants deserving promotion.

And whether it is not true that by reason of said acts the entire department is demoralized and functioning very inefficiently and at an expense out of all proportion to the results obtained.

19. To ascertain if it is not true that the force of wardens in the field, where the fish and game are to be found and where constructive work can only be done, is inadequate; while the "overhead" has been constantly increased by adding to it expensive and unproductive clerical workers; be it further

Resolved, That said committee report to this Assembly within a short time, the result of its investigation, with such recommendations as it may deem advisable; be it further

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Resolved, That said committee be, and it is, hereby authorized and empowered to compel the attendance of witnesses at its several sessions, by subpœnas, to be served by the clerk of said committee; and that the chairman and vice chairman of said committee be and they are each of them authorized to administer oaths to witnesses; and any witness refusing to answer questions is hereby declared to be in contempt, and may be punished as for contempt.

Said committee is empowered to employ all needed clerical and expert assistance to carry on said investigation, and all costs and expenses of such investigation shall be paid out of the Contingent Expense Fund of this Assembly, not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars.

Reply to the Eden Resolution by the Executive Officer of the Fish and Game Commission.

In the preamble of Mr. Eden's resolution introduced in the Assembly, April 1, 1919, it is stated that some of the members, officers and assistants of the Fish and Game Commission appear before the Legislature. While this is true, they do so merely in an advisory capacity and have not at this or any other session of the Legislature, attempted to influence any legislation for personal motives. They have favored the legislation which they thought was best for the conservation of the fish and game of this state and have opposed legislation which, in their opinion, was harmful or vicious.

A general statement is made that certain members, assistants and employees of the commission have been derelict in the performance of the duties imposed upon them by law, but no specific instances have been enumerated. The statement is untrue. Assistants or employees found derelict in the performance of their duties have been promptly discharged from the service of the commission.

The following is a brief reply to each of the nineteen points set up in the resolution:

1. The fact that two of the three commissioners are members of gun clubs has in no way influenced them in showing any favoritism towards gun clubs nor have they been perniciously active in supporting or opposing legislation pending before the Assembly, nor have they sought to establish the European system of monopoly in the control and use of fish and game, against the interests and wishes of the common people. On the contrary, they have always sought to perpetuate fish and game in this state for the benefit and use of all the people. Commissioner Bosqui is not a member of nor in any way affiliated with any hunting or fishing club nor with any game or fishing preserve.

2. It is not true that within the past nine years the Fish and Game Commission has dismissed three executive officers of the commission. Charles A. Vogelsang severed his connection with the commission long before Commissioners Newbert and Bosqui were appointed and several years prior to the time the present executive officer became connected with the commission.

John P. Babcock, after several conferences with Governor Hiram W. Johnson, resigned on November 24, 1911.

Ernest Schaeffle voluntarily resigned on September 15, 1916. Both resignations are now on file in the office of the commission.

3. Mr. Robert D. Duke, attorney for the commission, devotes all of his time to the duties of his state office.

4. During the four years ending June 30, 1918, the Fish and Game Commission collected the sum of $837,409.25, because under the laws of the state, it was its duty to collect said sum. This money was paid into the Fish and Game Preservation Fund by hunters, anglers and commercial fishermen who desired that it be used for the purpose of conserving fish and game and not that it be diverted into the general fund to be used for other purposes. It is their wish that these funds be spent on patrol, enforcement of fish and game laws, erection and maintenance of hatcheries, distribution of fish, installation of screens in ditches, fishways in dams and research, etc.

The fish canners and commercial fishermen, of their own accord, asked that a privilege tax be imposed on the taking of fish and that the money from this source be turned over to the Fish and Game Commission for the purpose of conducting investigations of the life history of fishes in order that the commercial fisheries might be further developed, new methods of fishing experimented with and proper legislation passed in order to conserve the fishes of this state.

Accounts of its receipts and expenditures are published more frequently by this commission than by any other state board or commission. "California Fish and Game," published by the commission quarterly, contains a full statement of all money expended by this commission each month, besides an account of the commission's other activities.

That the funds of the commission have not been unwisely or extravagantly spent is proven by the results obtained. The salmon run, which in the early '80s was practically exterminated by mining operations, was restored by the work of the

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commission's hatchery department, so that in 1918 over twelve million pounds of salmon were caught, which retailed at an average price of 25 cents per pound, making the total value of the catch $3,000,000.

Striped bass, catfish, black bass, shad, blue gill, calico bass and other food fishes were introduced into the waters of this state by the Fish and Game Commission. As a result of this work, 1,400,000 pounds of striped bass were caught in California in the year 1918. They were retailed at about 25 cents per pound, or $325,000. During the last three years over twelve million pounds of shad were taken in California, from thirty to sixty-five carloads of roe-shad being shipped to the Eastern markets each year, retailing at not less than 20 cents per pound, making an average of $800,000 per year.

Catfish are also caught in large numbers. In 1918, 200,000 pounds, worth 25 cents per pound, or $50,000, were sent to our markets. The annual catch of these four species of fish introduced or re-established by the Fish and Game Commission is valued at $4,175,000. In fact, a total of 250,000,000 pounds of fish were caught in California during the year 1918. The fish packed by canners and curers, alone, were worth approximately $20,000,000, to say nothing of the fresh fish sent to the markets.

Surely an industry of such magnitude is worth protecting, and any money spent in investigating the life history of our food fishes can not truthfully be said to be extravagantly spent without achieving results, particularly when the fish introduced, propagated and protected by the commission bring into the State of California, $4,175,000 per year—over ten times the amount expended by the state in the protection, propagation and conservation of all fish and game.

As a result of the investigations by the experts of the commission, a new season and limit was adopted and the catch of crabs increased 40,000 dozen per year, valued at $100,000.

Besides the important work of the Fish and Game Commission in propagating and conserving commercial fishes, it has also propagated and distributed millions of trout and has stocked many waters which had been entirely barren of fish life. Bear Lake, an artificial lake in San Bernardino County, about eight miles long, was stocked by the Fish and Game Commission. Hatcheries and egg-taking stations were built and maintained there and the supply of fish kept up so that now the fifty or sixty thousand people who visit the lake annually obtain excellent fishing. In addition to Bear Lake, the commission has also planted trout and black bass in Huntington Lake, Bass Lake, Shaver Lake, Clear Lake, Juniper Lake, Medicine Lake, Rea Lakes, Sixty Lake Basin and many other lakes throughout the Sierra Nevada and the Coast Range mountains, too numerous to mention. In all of these lakes excellent fishing is to be had and they are annually visited by tens of thousands of anglers.

Innumerable barren streams in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and elsewhere in this state have been stocked with trout. All of the streams in the Yosemite National Park above the floor of the valley were barren of fish life before they were stocked by the Fish and Game Commission. Golden trout have been distributed from Volcano Creek throughout the Sierra Nevada Mountains, as far north as the Yosemite Valley.

The fishing in some of our best streams is kept up solely through the work of the Fish and Game Commission. When the run of black-spotted trout, the only trout indigenous to the Truckee River, was stopped by the dams in the river in the State of Nevada, the Fish and Game Commission planted Rainbow, Eastern Brook and Loch Leven trout in this most excellent fishing stream, so that, now, while black-spotted trout are seldom, if every caught, excellent catches are made of the varieties introduced by the Commission.

The banks of the Sacramento River on Sundays and holidays, in fact, nearly every day, are lined with anglers fishing for catfish, crappie, blue gill, calico bass and other exotic fish introduced into the waters of this state by the Fish and Game Commission.

The work of the Fish and Game Commission in the protection of the game resources of the state has also been productive of excellent results. Deer are admittedly much more numerous now than they were ten or fifteen years ago. Cottontail rabbits are becoming so numerous that the residents of Fish and Game District No. 2 and Fish and Game District No. 4 have asked this Legislature that the protection given cottontail and brush rabbits be removed and that they be placed upon the list of predatory animals which may be taken at any time.

As a result of the protection given pheasants, those planted by the commission have become so numerous in favorable localities, that open seasons for the taking of these birds are demanded in Inyo and other counties and will probably be granted by this session of the Legislature.

Quail and doves are holding their own in most localities. Wild ducks and wild geese, under the protection given them both by the state and federal government, are so numerous that in many localities, they are considered a pest, particularly in the rice fields of the Sacramento Valley and the grain fields in the lower San Joaquin Valley. In fact, there is now pending in the Legislature a bill providing that the protection given ducks and geese be, to some extent, removed, in order that the farmers of the state may obtain relief from their depredations.

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5. The diminution in the number of cases made in the biennial period 1916–1918, is due to the vigorous campaign of education being carried on by this commission. The commission feels that it can obtain much better results by educating the people to a proper observance of the laws for the conservation of our fish and game, than it can by arrests alone. Apparently the commission is justified in this. Despite the fact that the patrol has been more efficient than at any other time, the number of arrests have decreased from 2,087 in 1914–16 to 1,797 in 1916–18. Among the activities of the Department of Education and Publicity which emphasize the motto, "Conservation through education," are:

a. "CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME," a quarterly magazine devoted to the conservation of fish and game in California, published, contains—

(1) Numerous articles on game species, means of identifying them, their past and present status and the means whereby they may be conserved.

(2) Statistics bearing on the abundance of game species.

(3) Reports of work accomplished by commission; activities initiated.

(4) Financial reports.

b. Publicity items in newspapers dealing with fish and game and the activities of the commission.

c. Magazine articles, *e.g.* "A New Goose for California," "Pernicious Bounty Laws."

d. Lectures on fish and game and its conservation illustrated with stereopticon and with motion pictures, given to schools, churches, teachers' institutes, boy scouts, summer camps, etc.

(1) Special series of lectures to university students.

e. Exhibits showing work and activities installed at State Fair and sportsmen shows.

f. Instruction relative to fish and game and the need and value of wild life conservation given in schools by means of lectures and trips afield.

(1) Teacher's bulletins issued furnishing teachers with usable information.

(2) Similar instructions given boy scout organizations at their summer camps.

g. Record of activities and accomplishments furnished the Governor and the people of the state through the medium of a biennial report.

h. Information on wild life furnished in reply to letters of inquiry.

The decrease in the number of cases can also be accounted for by the fact that at the 1917 Legislature, the sale of trout was prohibited, thus eliminating the many arrests that had theretofore been made of fishermen who caught trout for the market and who continually violated the law regarding both seasons and limits.

Furthermore, on account of the vigorous prosecution of cases by the commission, many violators have ceased to disobey the laws. For example, after Judge Murasky decided the case of *American Game Transfer* vs. *Fish and Game Commission* in favor of the commission, the merchants who had theretofore sold wild ducks illegally, practically quit doing so, and market hunters from whom they procured wild ducks discontinued their unlawful shipments.

6. At the urgent request of the anglers of southern California, the commission decided to build a hatchery to stock the streams and lakes of southern California and the western and eastern slopes of the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains, which were fished annually by thousands of people from Los Angeles and other portions of southern California. It emphatically and repeatedly demanded in writing of the Department of Engineering and Board of Control that the building should not cost more than $30,000. Plans and estimates were submitted by the State Architect, calling for a building to cost $29,500.

At a meeting held in the office of the Fish and Game Commission in the Mills Building, San Francisco, attended by John Francis Neylan, then President of the Board of Control; Mr. Dean of the State Architect's office; Frank M. Newbert, M. J. Connell, Carl Westerfeld, Fish and Game Commissioners; Ernest Schaeffle, Secretary of the Fish and Game Commission, and Mr. W. H. Shebley, Superintendent of Hatcheries, the commissioners attempted to question the representatives of the State Architect on the estimates submitted and were told emphatically by Mr. Neylan that neither he nor the representatives of the State Architect or the Department of Engineering or its officials, came to the commission to have their ability to estimate the cost of a building questioned by laymen; that the law provided that the amount set aside for the building must be turned over to the Department of Engineering and that if the plans were satisfactory, the commission would have nothing further to say about its construction. Furthermore, if the commission did not turn over $30,000 to the Department of Engineering, as provided by law, the Board of Control would not approve of the expenditure of one cent and the commission could not build the hatchery. Thereupon, the commissioners turned over $30,000 to the Department of Engineering, which assumed full charge of the construction of the building.

Before asking for plans and specifications for the hatchery to be built in Inyo County the Fish and Game Commission made an extended survey of all the streams in southern California, in order to obtain the best site possible for a hatchery. The temperature of the waters of numerous creeks was taken; the minimum and maximum

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flow determined; the transportation facilities were examined; the needs of the surrounding country were investigated. After a most exhaustive examination, the present site on Oak Creek was chosen, and the results have fully justified the choice made. In view of the fact that nearly all the water in southern California was appropriated for irrigation, power or domestic use, the state was extremely fortunate to obtain such valuable water rights free of cost. These alone are of much greater value than the cost of the hatchery.

The fish produced at the Mt. Whitney Hatchery show much greater and better development than those propagated at any other in this state or anywhere in the world. The facilities for stocking the waters of the southern Sierras and southern California are better than those that could be obtained anywhere else in that section of the state and the people who are informed, are all of the opinion that no better site could have been chosen.

a. It is not true, as stated in the resolution, that there were no waters nearby needing to be stocked. On the contrary, there are numerous streams and lakes both on the western and eastern side of the southern Sierras, some of which are barren of fish life, in which trout ought to be planted. The headwaters of many of the streams flowing into the southern San Joaquin Valley rise in the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, within easy range of the Mt. Whitney Hatchery.

b. It is not true that it is impossible to obtain a sufficient supply of trout eggs in the vicinity of the hatchery. On the contrary, an ample supply of trout eggs can be obtained from Rae Lake and Bear Lake, besides a bountiful supply of golden trout eggs from Cottonwood Lake, the only place in the world where these eggs can be obtained. In any event, it is much cheaper and easier to transport eggs to Mt. Whitney Hatchery to be hatched and distributed than it is to transport trout fry from Mt. Sisson Hatchery to the streams and lakes stocked from the Mt. Whitney Hatchery.

c. It is not true that the hatchery product must be transported a great distance or at a heavy expense. The lakes and streams of the southern Sierras and southern California can be easily reached and cheaply stocked from the Mt. Whitney Hatchery.

d. The hatchery product is loaded on the fish distribution cars at Owenyo, leaves there about five o'clock in the evening, and passing through the Mojave Desert at night, reaches Los Angeles and the southern portion of the San Joaquin Valley early the following morning.

7. The cost of maintenance and operation of the Mt. Whitney Hatchery is not extravagantly expensive nor out of all proportion to the benefit derived by the people of the state. From year to year the expense, instead of growing, will diminish on account of better facilities and the probable decrease in the price of food for fish.

The ground on which the hatchery is located was not purchased by the state, but was given to the state by the citizens of Inyo County. The commissioners are not aware who are the owners of the property adjacent to the hatchery site. At the time the hatchery was built, the land adjoining it immediately on the west was a part of the National Forest, owned by the United States.

The Fish and Game Commission of California has made a greater effort than any other state in the union to obtain accurate first-hand information relative to the present status and condition of the game and fish of the state. It has caused extended scientific research to be made, both as to the life histories of our game and our fishes.

Under the direction of Dr. H. C. Bryant and J. S. Hunter, the following investigations have been instituted:

a. Researches are being carried on by H. C. Bryant, Ph.D., game expert of the commission, and J. S. Hunter, in close co-operation with the University of California, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, facilities and advice of the trained scientists of the university being available and used.

b. Dr. Bryant, joint author of "The Game Birds of California," a 600-page book, published in 1918, detailing the life history, habits and past and present status of each species of game bird found in the State, sums up present knowledge of each species.

c. Investigations of the food habits of birds:

(1) Roadrunner proved an efficient destroyer of insect pests rather than an enemy of quail. Actual food consumed shown by stomach analysis.

(2) Study of food of ducks in progress. Will furnish information as to their relation to agriculture and will give evidence as to best food plants to attract wild fowl to the State. Natural foods suitable for use by the game breeder will also be apparent.

d. Compilation of dependable facts regarding game and its status. File kept; information furnished by forest officers codified; newspaper articles authenticated.

(1) Special report on fur bearing mammals; past and present status.

(2) Present status of beaver with map showing known distribution.

(3) Present status of prong-horned antelope with map showing present distribution and census of existing herds.

e. Statistics of annual kill of game.

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(1) Deer. Estimate made from actual report of kill made by deputies and forest officers.

(2) Ducks. Estimate made from records showing shipments to market.

f. Investigations of disease attacking game.

(1) F. C. Clarke—disease attacking deer in Trinity County; proved to be a bladder worm.

(2) Dr. Bryant—disease attacking ducks in Sutter County, 1918.

g. Investigations of birds in relation to agriculture.

(1) Ducks versus rice. Joint investigation by Biological Survey and Fish and Game Commission.

(2) Blackbirds versus corn and other crops.

(3) English sparrow versus garden crops and beneficial native birds.

(4) Relation of meadow lark to agriculture.

h. Field investigations of game refuges.

(1) Trinity County Game Refuge; present condition; predatory mammals.

(2) Pinnacles Monument Game Refuge; present condition; predatory mammals.

i. Study of acclimatization of exotic species. Success and failure in the introduction of foreign game birds and mammals.

j. Study of methods of conserving wild life.

k. Scientific investigations of deer and their status in California by F. C. Clarke.

The following scientific investigations of the commercial fisheries of the state have been carried on, and many of them are still in progress under the direction of Mr. N. B. Scofield, in charge of the Department of Commercial Fisheries.

a. Investigation of Albacore, Sardine and Herring. Mr. Will F. Thompson, formerly with the Department of Fisheries of British Columbia, at present fishery expert in our laboratory at Long Beach, is making a scientific investigation of the life history of the albacore, together with a statistical analysis of the catch. He is also making a scientific study of the sardine and herring, as well as observations on a great many other fish. The greater part of the time, however, is spent with the albacore and sardine, in order that we may be prepared to cope with the many problems arising with the rapid development of these fisheries.

Mr. Elmer Higgins, who is a graduate of the Department of Zoology, University of Southern California, is assisting Mr. Thompson in the laboratory, collecting specimens and conducting experimental fishing trips on the patrol launch "Albacore."

b. Edwin Chapen Starks, assistant professor of zoology of the Leland Stanford Junior University (formerly curator of the museum, and instructor at the University of Washington), is writing a series of comprehensive articles on the results of his studies of the various fishes of this coast, which appear in our magazine, "CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME," *i.e.*,

The Flat Fishes of California.
The Mackerel and Mackerel-like Fishes of California.
The Herring and Herring-like Fishes of California.
The Sharks of California.
The Skates and Rays of California.

c. Salmon. Arrangements have been made to complete the investigations of the life history of the salmon from Monterey Bay to the northern boundary of the state. Mr. Willis Rich, a well-known student in zoology, and J. O. Snyder, associate professor of zoology, Leland Stanford Junior University, formerly Assistant United States Fish Commissioner, naturalist U. S. S. "Albatross" and expert ichthyologist, will carry on the work. Mr. Rich has already completed a great deal of work on the salmon and Dr. C. H. Gilbert of Leland Stanford Junior University has carried on extensive experiments for the commission in marking and planting salmon fry.

d. Crab. A study of the Pacific Coast edible crab (*Cancer magister*) was made by Frank Walter Weymouth (assistant professor of physiology, Leland Stanford Junior University, A. B. Stanford 1909, A. M. Stanford 1911. In 1912 and 1913, assistant in physiology at the Johns Hopkins University), in the year 1911. As a direct result of his findings the size limit of crabs was increased by law and the catch of crabs in 1917 was increased 50 per cent over that of 1916.

e. Mollusks. In 1911 a complete survey was made of the California coast under the direction of Prof. Harold Heath, professor of zoology, Leland Stanford Junior University (A. B. Ohio Wesleyan, Ph.D. Pennsylvania), covering the mollusks of this region. W. W. Curtner, Will F. Thompson and Mr. Hubbs assisted in this work.

f. Crawfish. A crawfish investigation was made in 1911 by Bennett M. Allen of the University of Wisconsin. Later Waldo S. Schmidt of the United States National Museum came to this coast, and in 1918, with the assistance of our men and boats, was able to secure some specimens of young crawfish which will greatly assist him in his report of their life history.

g. Abalones. Mr. W. W. Curtner has made a complete study of the abalones of the State. Mr. Curtner is a graduate in zoology of the Leland Stanford Junior University.

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h. Striped Bass, Sturgeon, Perch, Shrimps, etc. Mr. Scofield has himself conducted a great many investigations of our fishes, such as the shad, striped bass, perch, sturgeon, etc. He has also made a study of the shrimp fishery and has been able to prevent the use of the destructive Chinese method of shrimp fishing.

i. Kelp. During the Great War, when a sufficient amount of potash was not obtainable even at the increased price of $300 and $400 a ton, formerly $65 per ton, a study was made of the extensive kelp beds along the coast of southern California with the assistance of Mr. W. C. Crandall of the Scripps Institution and Dr. F. W. Turrentine of the United States Department of Agriculture, and regulations were made as a result of this study which enabled the harvesters to cut the kelp to the limit without unduly destroying the beds.

9. There is less than eight miles of the Truckee River in California below Floriston. Shortly before the present Board of Fish and Game Commissioners was appointed, the State of Nevada appropriated $10,000 to abate the nuisance caused by the pollution of the Truckee River at Floriston. Nevada's chief complaint was not that the alleged pollution was deleterious to fish life but that it rendered the water supply of the city of Reno unpalatable.

An action was commenced by the State of Nevada in the United States courts in San Francisco and much testimony was taken. It was not proven that the refuse was deleterious to fish. In fact, the testimony showed that the fish in the river below the point at which the refuse was discharged, were in good condition and fit for human consumption. The action commenced by the State of Nevada was thrown out of court. Thereafter, certain state officials of Nevada consulted with the Fish and Game Commission of California, with a view to abating the nuisance. F. A. Shebley and N. B. Scofield were sent by the commission to the Truckee River to make further experiments with the water affected. Numerous conferences were held and a committee consisting of W. H. Shebley, Superintendent of Hatcheries in California, Professor Dinsmore, Bureau of Chemistry, University of Nevada, and Mr. Block, representing the paper company, was appointed to go east at the expense of the paper company to investigate certain appliances to handle the refuse. The owners of the paper company agreed to install these appliances providing the manufacturers thereof would guarantee their efficacy. When the manufacturers would not do this, the matter was again taken up by Governor Boyle of Nevada and Mr. Thatcher, Attorney General of Nevada, with Governor Hiram W. Johnson of California, and Mr. Westerfeld.

As a result of this conference, a committee consisting of Hon. Arthur Arlett and W. H. Shebley, again investigated the condition of the river below Floriston and made its report to Governor Johnson. Mr. Westerfeld thereafter wrote Governor Johnson, asking that the Attorney General of the State of California be instructed to commence proceedings under the authority of *People* vs. *Truckee Lumber Company*, 116 Cal. 397, against the paper company to abate the nuisance. At the next session of the Nevada Legislature, another appropriation was granted by that state to again commence proceedings against the paper company. An action was thereupon instituted and is now pending in the Supreme Court of the United States.

10. Water Pollution. Practically nothing was done by previous boards of Fish and Game Commissioners to prevent pollution of the waters of the state. The present board has, however, made great strides in this work and it is safe to say that California now leads any other state in the Union in preventing the pollution of its waters.

In the last ten years many complaints have been filed in the courts against large corporations and individuals to stop the discharge of refuse matters into the waters of the state and vast sums of money have been expended by them in order to remedy the evil. For example, as a result of complaints filed in the courts by the Fish and Game Commission, the following named companies have expended the amounts set opposite their respective names to prevent pollution:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company	$200,000 00
Union Oil Company	18,000 00
Shell Company of California	40,000 00
Doheny-Pacific Petroleum Company and Associated Oil Company, jointly	20,000 00
Mason Malt Whiskey and Distilling Company	7,000 00
Southern Pacific Company	23,000 00
Monarch Refining Company	5,000 00
American Oriental Refining Company	2,000 00
Capitol Refining Company	1,000 00
Paraffine Paint Company	1,000 00
California Petroleum Company	1,200 00
Total	$318,200 00

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Many fines have also been collected as a result of prosecutions commenced by the commission.

Other large companies which have complied with our requests, or demands, without prosecution, are as follows:

Standard Oil Company	$500,000 00
Southern Pacific Company	26,000 00
Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company	5,000 00
Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company	5,000 00
Coast Valleys Gas and Electric Company	3,000 00
Pacific States Refining Company	2,000 00
Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company	2,000 00
Western States Gas and Electric Company	5,000 00
	$548,000 00
Brought forward	318,000 00
Grand total	$866,000 00

And in addition a large number of smaller companies and individuals have been compelled to cease pollution where such existed. In all cases where persons, firms or corporations have failed to comply with our demands they have been taken into court.

Three cases are now pending in the courts of San Luis Obispo County, two against the Union Oil Company for pollution of San Luis Bay, and one against the Tiber Pacific Company.

11. Screens. Prior to 1912 no systematic effort was made to cause the installation of screens and ladders. At that time the present commission created a department of screens and ladders and detailed two men to attend to this work under the supervision of the Superintendent of Hatcheries. Since that time, despite the fact that the law has been found defective in some respects, 862 surveys have been made and notices served on the owners of ditches to install suitable screens. At this date 518 screens have been reported as being installed and in effective working condition. Before May 15 of this year between fifty and sixty screens have been installed at the expense of several thousand dollars. For instance, the screens installed by the Sacramento-West Side Canal Company, the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation Company and the Southern California Edison Company, cost many thousands of dollars each.

The work of installing screens in ditches is being pushed as rapidly and as vigorously as conditions will permit.

Under the law as amended in 1917, at the suggestion of the commission, the California Oregon Power Company has, at an expense of $20,000, built a hatchery at the Copco dam on the Klamath River, and last month conveyed it to the state, together with dwellings, traps and other equipment necessary to operate the station.

12. Ladders. The present Fish and Game Commission in 1912 began a systematic survey in order to determine where fish ladders should be installed. As stated under the head of "Screens" (point 11), two men were detailed under the supervision of the Hatchery Superintendent to make these surveys and to draft plans to be given the owners or occupiers of the dam. Numerous ladders and screens were installed; under the law 47 hearings as to the necessity of the installation of screens and ladders were held by the commission and findings made and orders issued by the board compelling the installation of fishways and screens. To date a total of 209 surveys of dams have been made and the owners have been legally notified to install fish ladders in accordance with the plans submitted. Of this number 131 fishways have been constructed and have been accepted as being effective. The other cases are being pushed vigorously and in some instances actions have been commenced to compel obedience to the orders of the board.

13. At the 1917 session of the Legislature, the commission was instrumental in having sixteen large areas within national forests set aside as game refuges, aggregating 839,180 acres. Besides this, the commission has now established seven game refuges on privately owned land in sections where hunting is intensive and game needed such protection. Within the last six months, over 60,000 acres of private holdings have been set aside for this purpose.

The commission is now asking the Legislature that two new game refuges be created, one around Lick Observatory, the other in Kern County.

14. The branch office established at Fresno was abolished because the work done by that office could be more efficiently and economically handled by the San Francisco office. The officer who had been in charge of the Fresno office was retained in the service of the commission until he voluntarily asked to be given a furlough in order that he could operate a mine which he owned and also attend to his agricultural interests which demanded his attention.

15. The game farm at Hayward, California, was established in 1908, prior to the appointment of the present board. The grounds were leased for a period of ten years. This commission was willing to cancel the lease at any time, had it been able to make suitable terms with the owner. When the owner of the land sued the commission to

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set aside the lease, the commission put in practically no defense, but Judge Murphy, who tried the case, nevertheless ordered the commission to maintain a game farm on the land until the expiration of the lease.

16. It is not true that the distribution of fish as carried on by the commission is unscientific, unduly expensive or that it results in the destruction in each year of a large portion of the fish so distributed.

Through the efforts of the commission, two fish cars, distributing fish all over the State of California, are hauled free of charge by the railroad. The greatest of care is taken to see that the fish are properly distributed and properly planted in the streams and lakes.

17. It is not true that the Fish and Game Commission failed to investigate the young salmon propagated and distributed in the Sacramento River. The Fish and Game Commission has heretofore caused such investigation to be carried on by Dr. C. H. Gilbert of the Stanford University and Mr. N. B. Scofield, fishery expert for the commission, and is now carrying on such investigation in conjunction with the Bureau of Fisheries under the direction of Mr. Willis Rich and Mr. J. O. Snyder of the Stanford University, Mr. N. B. Scofield and Mr. W. H. Shebley. Salmon fry are held longer at Mt. Shasta Hatchery and are larger when released than those reared by any other state or county.

18. The commission has not at any time been governed for political or personal or other inefficient or improper motives.

a. It has not dismissed trained or efficient employees without cause.

b. It has not employed or promoted or otherwise rewarded assistants or employees not deserving of such consideration.

c. The department is not demoralized or functioning inefficiently or at an expense out of all proportion to the results obtained. On the contrary, the work of the department is now being performed more efficiently, intelligently and economically than at any other time during its existence.

19. The force of wardens in the field is as great as the funds of the commission will permit. If the overhead has increased, it is caused by the increase of the clerical work connected with the commission's activities, and also by the rules and regulations laid down by the Board of Control.

Respectfully submitted.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION.
CARL WESTERFELD, *Executive Officer.*

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Fig 56. Yosemite Valley deer photographed in a snowstorm. Snow was falling at the rate of two inches an hour when these deer were photographed by A. M. Fairfield, March 6, 1919. Exposure 1/25 sec., stop, F 6.3.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

October 21, 1919.

PERSUASION VERSUS COMPULSION IN FISH AND GAME CONSERVATION.

Legislati n is the time-honored method by which the body politic attempts to attain an object. When new roads are desired, the legislature is asked to enact the proper laws. When the public health is to be safeguarded, an act of the legislature is demanded. But beyond the mere placing of a law on the statute books is the necessity of making the law effective by means of law enforcement. Where the need for the laws is well realized there is little need of law enforcement; where they are poorly understood, time, energy and money must be spent to attain the object sought.

When, in fish and game conservation, we turn to this same time-honored method, the difficulties are just begun, for laws passed by the legislature must be enforced. Because of the failure of peace officers to do their duty, a large number of specially appointed game wardens must force people to obey the law.

Is there not a better way of attaining the same object? More and more we find campaigns of education being instituted to prepare the way for proper legislation. A city does not think of holding a bond election until after the people have been educated to the need for which the bonds are to be issued. Successful liberty loans have been effected by proper publicity almost to a greater extent than by the actual systematic canvass. The best example of accomplishment by means of an educational method rather than a legislative method is to be found in the success of the United States Food Administration.

How much better to have attained the goal by means of persuasion rather than compulsion!

If it is evident in attaining an object that the educational is of more worth than the legislative method because more fundamental, it seems reasonable that more time and energy should be devoted to this method in attempting the conservation of natural resources.

THE ANGLER VERSUS THE NET FISHERMAN.

The old controversy between the angler for sport only and the net fishermen for profit only, over the waters adjacent to Santa Catalina Island, has been revived recently.

It was thought that this matter had been definitely settled by action of the 1917 legislature in making two districts around the island, one in which net fishermen could operate and one for the benefit of the sportsmen only.

The promise of the cannery interests and net fishermen that they would not operate in a district dedicated to the sportsmen, provided a certain part of the waters surrounding the island be made a district in which net fishing should be permitted, would certainly seem to have settled the matter. However, it appears that this gentleman's agreement was not considered binding by some of the contracting parties.

About the middle of August, twenty-two canneries operating around San Pedro and some 340-odd alien fishermen who, not being able to maintain an action in the state court, cloaked themselves under the protecting wing of the canneries, obtained from the presiding judge of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County an order restraining certain individuals from interfering with their nets and boats, and further restraining them from making searches and seizures. This order was petitioned for under the plea that irreparable damage would be caused by the action of these certain named defendants, operating without due process of law.

The order was granted without previous notice to any of the defendants named in the petition. No mention was made in the petition that all of these

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defendants were officers of the law, sworn to enforce the law, and that the actions complained of were performed in the pursuance of their duties.

The restraining order was served on H. B. Nidever, W. B. Sellmer and E. L. Hedderly, but no order was served at that time on the Fish and Game Commission. The order was also served on Ernest Windle, justice of the peace of Avalon township, Bates and Sutermeir, respectively deputy county warden and constable of Avalon township.

The hearing of the petition to make permanent the temporary injunction was held before Judge Valentine on August 19, 1919. The attorneys representing the plaintiffs in the action attacked the constitutionality of section 636 of the Penal Code, relating to nets, and also the description of District 20, as given in the act dividing the state into fish and game districts. They maintained that since the acts were void, the court had the right to restrain the public officers from enforcing the provisions of section 636. They also maintained that the state had no jurisdiction over the waters surrounding Santa Catalina Island, because the state constitution made no mention of a three-mile limit around the island. This latter contention was shown to be so absurd that it has since been abandoned.

The court took the stand that since a temporary order had been granted, it was up to the defendants to show cause why it should not be continued and made permanent. The defendants were given five days in which to present their opening briefs; the plaintiffs were given five additional days for reply, and the defendants were allowed five days further for their closing briefs. By this, it can be seen that the cannery interests gained fifteen additional days in which to make raids on the fishing grounds in District 20.

Immediately after the hearing, an order was served on the Fish and Game Commission restraining it from enforcing the law relating to net fishing in the waters around Catalina Island.

It is of interest to note, however, from the report of our deputies, that the fishermen have gained very little by their tactics, as their fishing operations have produced very poor results.

Judge Valentine having set aside the temporary restraining order September 10, 1919, the Fish and Game Commission has given instructions to its deputies to enforce the law in District 20. For the time being, it would seem that this decision in favor of the commission's contentions will effectually settle the controversy.—E. C. B.

Fig. 57. Children on a nature study field excursion, Al Tahoe, evidence of the success of the educational work carried on by the Fish and Game Commission in summer resorts this past summer.

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EDUCATIONAL WORK IN SUMMER RESORTS.

The attempt to stimulate interest in wild life by carrying the Fish and Game Commission's educational campaign into the summer resorts proved very successful. During the month of July Doctor Bryant visited five of the largest resorts on Lake Tahoe: Brockway, Tahoe Tavern, Emerald Bay Camp, Al Tahoe Inn and Fallen Leaf Lodge. Lectures illustrated with stereopticon and motion pictures were given in the evening and parties taken afield in the day time. Of particular interest were the groups of children who roamed the woods and stream sides searching for wild things. It would be difficult to estimate the value of these excursions when the public at leisure came in contact with nature and learned the fundamentals of conservation first hand.

The final report shows that thousands of people were reached through the medium of lectures and that hundreds received instruction from a nature guide. The nature study reference books furnished by the California Nature Study League were in great demand and greatly helped in awakening interest in wild things.

It will be of interest to our readers to know that the Department of the Interior has decided to employ in each national park a resident naturalist whose duty it will be to answer questions and to interest people in the out-of-doors. Thus will the government augment the work already started by the commission.

The summer resort work at Tahoe proved so popular that an expansion of the work another summer will be demanded. There is no surer way of stimulating interest in wild life conservation than to develop interest in the out-of-doors when people are most susceptible to information about it.

Fig. 58. "Learning to read a roadside" at Emerald Bay under the instruction of a nature guide furnished by the Fish and Game Commission. An experiment in making conservationists out of the summer vacationists.

TAHOE PUBLIC CAMP.

The legislature at its last session set aside the old hatchery grounds at Tahoe City, which are to be abandoned for a better site, as a public camp for vacationists. Under the direction of the Fish and Game Commission the State Engineering Department installed a water supply, sewer system and other sanitary conveniences. The camp was opened to the public on July 4 with Mr. Arnold D. Patterson as superintendent. On the first day over a hundred campers were cared

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for. The camp remained open until September 5. During the season 1,239 persons registered, but this number does not represent the total number accommodated. Further improvements are to be made in preparation for the crowds expected next summer.

and providing for a bag limit of one deer. Governor Smith, in signing the bill, stated that the law was in the nature of an experiment and that if it proved unsatisfactory it would be repealed.

Laws of this character, contrary to recommendations of those most interested

Fig. 59. Tahoe Public Camp on the old hatchery grounds at Tahoe City. Hundreds of campers availed themselves of the comforts of this free camp ground conducted by the Fish and Game Commission. Photograph by George Neale.

DEER CONSERVATION IN NEW YORK.

The state of New York is gaining some valuable facts by obtaining a census of the deer. The reports lead to a conclusion that there are in round numbers about 50,000 deer in that state. In 1917, approximately 37,000 men hunted deer and the total deer killed is estimated at 10,000. Records show that 5,888 Adirondack deer hides were received for tanning by different tanning companies.

Approximately 19,000 of the total number of deer are bucks. With a kill of 10,000 about 50 per cent of the bucks are killed each year. This is a toll already too great if the deer supply is to be maintained.

As a result of investigations a shorter season and a bag limit of one buck instead of two was recommended, but the legislature, influenced by selfish hunters, passed a bill allowing the killing of "any wild deer of either sex, other than fawns,"

in game conservation and contrary to the best experience of other states, are likely to prove costly experiments.

MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT CONSTITUTIONAL.

The duck shooters of the country who have fought federal protection for migratory birds in an effort to defeat the law so that they might continue the destructive practice of spring shooting of waterfowl, have been decisively beaten on two occasions lately in the United States District Courts. This fact is made more interesting because on both occasions those opposing the law felt certain they would win. Their array of counsel was the best they could obtain. They chose their cases with due regard to decisions made in the past and with all respect to the local sentiment in the district where the trial was held. In fact, they left no stone unturned that would aid them in their fight to defeat the law, and still they

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lost. The sportsmen of the country should feel highly pleased over their victory, for surely the law is valid or the organized fight against it would have met with at least some slight success.

On June 4, 1919 United States District Judge Jacob Trieber, of the Eastern District of Arkansas, who held that the original migratory bird law of 1913 was unconstitutional, handed down a very sweeping decision upholding the new law. This was the first jolt received by the spring shooters, but the knockout blow came later at Kansas City, Missouri, when Judge Arba S. Van Valkenburgh, on July 2, 1919, upheld the law in a decision so sweeping that a fitting comparison is Dempsey's decision over Willard a few days later.—*Bull. American Game Protective Association.*

WATERFOWL DIE FROM EATING SHOT.

Wild ducks and other waterfowl sometimes die from lead poisoning resulting from swallowing stray shot which they pick out of the mud about shooting grounds. Many ducks that become sick from lead poisoning finally recover, but it is probable that the effect is permanently injurious not only to the individual but to the species. It has been ascertained by experiment that lead greatly impairs the virility of male domestic fowls. Females mated with them lay many infertile egs, while in many of the eggs that are fertilized the embryo dies in the shell or the chick emerges weak and unable to withstand the hardships of early life. What effect lead poisoning has on female wild fowl has not been definitely ascertained, but, as the fact is well known that lead produces abortion in female mammals, there is a possibility that it exerts a bad effect on female waterfowl during the breeding season. Thus, the supply of waterfowl is likely to be decreased by lead poisoning not only by the number of birds that die directly from it but indirectly by impairment of reproduction.

These facts are set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture in Bulletin 793, "Lead Poisoning in Waterfowl," about to be published as a contribution from the Bureau of Biological Survey. Reports of waterfowl apparently sick from lead poisoning have been coming in for several years. The Biological Survey undertook an investigation at various shooting grounds to determine how common the taking of shot by waterfowl is, and a series of experiments to ascertain the effect of shot swallowed. It was found that at places where much shooting is regularly done from blinds, shot at the bottom of the shallow water are so numerous that one or more was found in practically every sieveful of mud or silt, and that they are swallowed by waterfowl whenever found as a result of this habit of swallowing small, hard objects to supply grit for the gizzard.

The experiments have shown that shot swallowed are gradually ground away in the gizzard and pass into the intestines, producing a poisoning that results in progressive paralysis and, usually, death. Experiments with wild waterfowl captured when young and reared in captivity—to obviate the possibility of their having taken lead before the beginning of the experiments—have shown that six pellets of No. 6 shot constitute an amount of lead that is always fatal. Two or three shot were sufficient to cause death in several instances. In one experiment, two mallards were given one No. 6 shot each. One of them died in nine days and the other was able to throw off the poison.

The list of species known to have been poisoned by eating shot consists of mallard, pintail and canvas-back ducks, the whistling swan, and the marbled godwit, but many other species, particularly of ducks and geese, are undoubtedly affected by it, according to the bulletin.

Unfortunately, nothing can be done at this time to protect waterfowl from lead poisoning except to call attention to the malady and to make known its cause and symptoms. The department, however, desires statistics on the numbers and species of birds affected and asks that sportsmen and others report to the Bureau of Biological Survey all cases that come to their attention.

GOVERNMENT NEEDS DEPUTY CHIEF GAME WARDEN.

The United States Department of Agriculture is in need of a well-qualified man, not less than twenty-five nor more than forty-five years of age, to fill a vacancy in the position of deputy chief United States game warden, and the United

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States Civil Service Commission will give a most practical open competitive test to secure the right man. The entrance salary will be between $2,500 and $3,000 a year. Headquarters will be in Washington, D. C.

The duties of the position are to assist in administering the law which gives effect to the treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds and the sections of the United States Penal Code known as the Lacey act; in the supervision of United States game wardens and deputies in the gathering of evidence and the preparation of cases for prosecution of alleged violations of the federal game laws, and in office administration; and to participate in conferences in and out of Washington with individuals and organizations interested in wild life conservation.

In accordance with its practice in connection with positions of this class, the examination given by the Civil Service Commission will not require the applicants to appear in an examination room for a mental test. Those who apply will receive a rating on their education and practical experience, weighted at 80 per cent, and on a thesis on a selected game-conservation subject, weighted at 20 per cent. Those who attain a passing grade will later be given an oral test to determine their personal qualifications for the position. Failure in this oral test will render the applicant ineligible for appointment.

Applications will be received by the Civil Service Commission up to and including October 28. Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the secretary of the local board of civil service examiners at the post office or customhouse in any of 3,000 cities, or by writing to the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

ANGLERS, ATTENTION.

At last we have landed the articles on angling you have been looking for. All of the fine points of angling will be discussed. Read the first of the series which treats of dry-fly fishing on page 169 of this issue and watch for the other articles in the series furnished by "R. L. M., California," than whom there is no better writer on the subject.

ADDITIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD TREATIES NEEDED.

In order to complete our program for the protection of migratory birds, it is as necessary for them to be protected in the countries in which they sojourn during winter months as in the territory where they breed and spend their time in spring, summer and autumn.

It is therefore imperative that treaties be entered into with the republics of Mexico, Central and South America for the protection of birds that, in the course of their annual migration, pass from or through the United States and temporarily sojourn in such countries. It is a startling fact that wild duck are slaughtered by the millions in Mexico by pothunters, many of whom use masked batteries, and that they are sold in the markets for the pitiful sum of three cents each.

It is regrettable that the republics lying to the south of the United States have no game laws, but in the event those countries enter into treaties with the United States government for the protection of migratory birds, in order to carry out the terms of such treaties, such countries will be required to enact and to enforce laws making such treaties effective.

A campaign of education should be at once inaugurated in the Latin-American republics for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the people the economic value of birds and game, and the relation of these resources to the comfort, happiness and recreation of man.

The question is, can the migratory wild life withstand the onslaughts made upon it for mercenary purposes by irresponsible individuals in the Latin American republics, without being subjected to certain depletion and ultimate extinction?

Should the sportsmen of the country concur in the views briefly set out in this short paper, let them bestir themselves by addressing communications to their members of congress, and urging their active influence and assistance in making the treaties between the United States and the Latin-American republics, for the protection of migratory birds, an accomplished fact.—JOHN H. WALLACE, Commissioner, Dept. Game and Fish, Montgomery, Alabama.

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STATE FAIR EXHIBIT.

The Fish and Game Commission's exhibit at the State Fair at Sacramento, August 30 to September 9, 1919, was the most pretentious yet attempted and proved to be the biggest attraction at the fair. A capable engineer was retained to draw the plans and Mr. Wm. F. Dabelstein, an artist of San Francisco, executed them. The whole north end of the new Agriculture Building was given over to the exhibit. The main feature of the exhibit was a cyclorama of the Sierras with Mounts Shasta, Lassen and Whitney looming up in the background and in the foreground the south end of Lake Tahoe

Fig. 60. The Fish and Game Commission's exhibit at the State Fair at Sacramento which took the form of a panorama of the High Sierras with Mount Shasta and Lake Tahoe at the left and Mount Whitney with a miniature of the Mount Whitney Hatchery at its base at the right. The exhibit was pronounced the finest on the fair grounds.

at one end and a miniature of the Mount Whitney Hatchery at the other. Several miniature waterfalls tumbled down the rocks into an artificial lake filled with trout. The whole scene was made still more attractive by a system of lighting which successively showed the gray light of dawn, the rosy tints of sunrise and the light of full day.

Arranged in front of the panorama were four large aquaria. Two of them showed common introduced fish such as black and striped bass, blue-gilled sunfish, crappie and catfish, a third showed different varieties of trout and a fourth was filled with the famous golden trout of the Mount Whitney region. Great interest was shown in the golden trout, and no wonder, for their bright colors would attract anyone. The hardiness of this variety of trout was evidenced by their vigorous good health while in the aquarium. Not a fish was lost in transit, nor did one die during the ten days duration of the fair. The publications of the commission were on display and wild life films were shown in the motion picture theater twice daily.

GAME CENSUSES.

Many states are inaugurating a game census to determine the distribution and comparative abundance of different varieties. New York requires the wardens to report regularly on all game seen and also requires a report of the game taken, from each license holder. Minnesota has just inaugurated a similar census to be made by wardens. Although such censuses will doubtless give a basis for estimating the abundance of game, yet such reports are necessarily so inaccurate that California has not instituted similar work. It may be that at some future date California will follow the lead of these other states.

In the meantime J. S. Hunter, assistant executive officer, is contemplating a different sort of a census—one which would perhaps bring in more dependable data with less work. The number of cartridges sold in the state, if it were

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Fig. 61. Posting a game refuge. Suitable signs now mark the boundaries of our refuges. Photograph by H. C. Bryant.

known, would allow an estimate of the game killed. Different sorts of cartridges are used for the different kinds of game birds and mammals and with due allowance for game missed the total kill could be approximated. The securing of data along these lines would not be as difficult as the requiring of reports from wardens and hunters.

HATCHERY DEPARTMENT MOVES.

The Fishcultural Department, headed by Mr. W. H. Shebley, has moved to Sacramento, where temporary offices have been established in the Forum Building pending the more commodious quarters being prepared in the new Capitol Building. All correspondence connected with the Hatchery Department should hereafter be addressed to Fish and Game Commission, Department of Fishculture, Forum Building, Sacramento.

COLORED PRINTS OF GOLDEN TROUT AVAILABLE.

A few copies of the beautiful lithograph of the golden trout which appeared as the frontispiece of the Trout Number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME are available for distribution. Libraries and schools are urged to procure copies for framing. Send a two-cent stamp.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

A number of aliens who have purchased citizens' hunting licenses have found that it does not pay. In each instance they have had their license confiscated and been made to pay a $50 fine.

Splendid fish have been reared at the Yosemite and Kaweah experimental hatcheries, thus demonstrating the feasibility of constructing permanent hatcheries at these stations.

State lion hunter J. Bruce recently succeeded in bagging four lions in Tuolumne County.

Plans are under way for a State Fisheries Laboratory to be located near San Pedro. This will furnish working quarters for the scientific staff of the Department of Commercial Fisheries and will give room for an educational exhibit showing the work of the department.

Nearly three-quarters of a million golden trout were successfully reared at the hatcheries this year. Most of them will be planted in the Southern High Sierras, but some will be placed in the Tahoe region.

So great was the demand for the Trout Number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME with its colored plates that the supply is practically exhausted.

Hundreds of campers availed themselves of the public camp on the hatchery grounds near Tahoe City this past summer. It will be remembered that several acres of land were set aside for campers by the last legislature.

Several additional wardens have been employed this past summer to help patrol the state game refuges. Added protection has also been accorded by the eight aeroplane patrols established by the United States Forest Service.

Ducks are again dying from alkali poisoning in the Marysville Butte region of the Sacramento Valley.

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COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. SCOFIELD, Editor.

THE SALMON OF THE SACRAMENTO NEED MORE PROTECTION.

It is believed that the Sacramento salmon are not being adequately protected and that serious depletion may now be taking place. Within the last few years the salmon fisheries at Monterey and Point Reyes, which draw upon the Sacramento supply, have grown enormously, and as they have grown the catch on the Sacramento has been correspondingly less, in spite of the fact that the number of nets on the river has increased and that on account of the higher price the fishermen fish more persistently.

The present fall season on the Sacramento remains open at least two weeks too long. Several years ago the season closed on September 16. It was contended by fishermen and dealers that the salmon were running later each year and they succeeded in obtaining an open season until September 20. Later the season was continued until September 25. The object of the closed season is to protect at least one-third of the run in order that they may pass up the river unhindered by nets and cast their spawn in the headwaters and by so doing insure a continuous future supply of salmon. With the present season, one-third of the run is not protected, for by the closing date, September 25, the last of the run to so much of it as is left has passed the nets in San Francisco Bay, San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Straits and Suisun Bay, a distance, favorable for the use of nets, of nearly fifty miles. The salmon work up the bays and river slowly and after the run has passed the lower bays the fishermen move up and continue to catch them in the lower river until the season finally closes. The wonder is that any escape. The salmon which have escaped make their way to the spawning grounds which are located mainly in the tributaries, Mill Creek, Battle Creek and McCloud River. In each of these tributaries a spawn-taking station is operated to collect salmon eggs for the hatcheries. The number of salmon reaching these stations is becoming less each year so that the number of eggs that may be taken is now only about one-fifth what it was only a few years ago. This decrease in the number of fish reaching the spawning grounds is a sure sign of overfishing and it is self evident the salmon should be protected from this overfishing.

The Sacramento also has a spring run of salmon or rather what is left of a once large spring run. The salmon of this run enter San Francisco Bay during the winter and early spring and after escaping the trollers outside they have to run the gauntlet of gill nets through the bays and the river as far up as Colusa. Above Colusa, as far as Vina, every place the river sweeps round a bend with a sandbar on the inside of the turn there is a seining outfit which periodically sweeps the deep hole where the salmon congregate preparatory to ascending the next shallow stretch of the river. There are some fifteen of these outfits operating on the "seining bars" on the upper river. And the salmon can not escape these seines which sweep the holes where they collect except during periods of very high water. On the river below Colusa and in the bays, there is no closed season to protect this spring run. On the river above Colusa the season closes May 15, but this date is so late the run is all but over.

There is no salmon stream in North America where nets are allowed to be set great a distance up the stream as on the Sacramento. The number of salmon taken in these seines is not great, but they are the remnant of the spring run and they are a thousand times more valuable for propagating the species than are lost. The hatchery of the United States Bureau of Fisheries at Baird on the McCloud River is the only hatchery which has collected spawn from the spring salmon run, but at this hatchery they have not attempted to take eggs from this run for the past six years for the reason the number of salmon reaching that point had become so small it was deemed insufficient to warrant the expense of operating.

Two things are quite obvious to anyone who knows the facts. Seining and gill netting in the upper river should be pro-

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hibited and the fall season should close earlier so as to give some measure of protection to the larger and more important fall run. Trolling in the open sea possibly should be restricted. Investigations which were begun this year by the Fish and Game Commission under the direction of Dr. J. O. Snyder are expected to throw light on this point.

STRIPED BASS TAKEN IN MISSION BAY, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

Mr. A. G. Pearson of San Diego reports that on or about June 20, 1919, he took several small striped bass ranging from five to eight inches in length, in San Diego River near its outlet into Mission Bay.

On October 26, 1916, eighteen hundred small striped bass were planted near the mouth of San Diego River by the Fish and Game Commission, and since that time small striped bass have on several occasions been observed near the place of planting. As far as is known, only the one plant has been made in southern California and striped bass have never before been reported south of Monterey Bay. The fry at the time of planting were between two and three inches long, being fish of the year, spawned in April or May, 1916. If these fry had grown at the rate they do in San Francisco Bay they would have reached the size of five to eight inches in 1917, during their second year. If the fry reported by Mr. Pearson are some of the fry liberated in 1916 they are in their fourth year and their rate of growth has been remarkably slow. It is suggested that these five- to eight-inch fish are the progeny of the fish planted in 1916, but that can hardly be as a sufficient length of time has not elapsed, for it is pretty certain that striped bass do not spawn earlier than their fourth year and the fish planted in 1916 would not complete their fourth year until the spring of 1920. It would seem more probable that striped bass plants have been made of which we have no record or else striped bass which are plentiful in Monterey Bay have strayed to the south and occasionally spawn as far south as San Diego.

The striped bass is not native to the Pacific coast, but was introduced from the Atlantic coast in the early seventies and since that time has become quite plentiful.

KELP HARVESTING MAY BE RESUMED.

During the period of the war nearly four thousand tons of kelp were harvested each year in California waters. Upon the signing of the armistice practically all harvesting ceased as potash could not be extracted from the kelp economically enough to compete with the foreign potash which it was expected would be imported again in large quantities. In extracting potash from kelp many by-products were obtained which had never before been obtained in commercial quantities. As yet most of these by-products have not found a market. Much progress was made in developing more economical methods of obtaining the potash from kelp and it was hoped that if a market could be found for the by-products the kelp plants could continue to operate, but the armistice came sooner than expected and the plants closed down. Since then efforts have been made to place a duty on foreign potash, but as yet congress has taken no definite action. Efforts have also been made to find markets for the by-products and now one or more new companies which believe they have found the solution expect to resume the harvesting of kelp. The future of the industry will depend less on the value of the potash extracted than on the other chemicals which should be valuable when commercial uses for them can be found.

SARDINE RUN AT MONTEREY.

The sardine season at Monterey has been earlier than that usually considered normal. Canneries were running full capacity during July and August. During August the run was exceptionally large and the fish unusually firm and of good quality. This year there were more crews fishing sardines than ever before, forty-five crews operating, or an increase of seven crews over last year. The shortage of cans during the fruit season greatly curtailed the size of the sardine pack, which otherwise bid fair to break all records for this locality.

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STEELHEAD.

It is often said by sportsmen that steelhead trout do not take the hook in open salt water. As contrary evidence a 3¼-pound (cleaned weight) steelhead was caught July 23, 1919, on the hook in the open Monterey Bay and the local fishermen claim that such a catch is no great rarity. Several steelhead were also taken this year on the Mendocino County coast by the same method while fishing for salmon. During the summer of 1910 many steelhead were taken, during a period of six weeks, by trolling off Soquel in Monterey Bay. Many of the trout were caught a mile off shore.

SEAWEED AS FOOD.

The Chinese consider some of our seaweeds a very desirable basis for soups and several Monterey Chinamen make a business of catering to this demand. The weed is sun-dried and sacked, but held in the sack for further drying before shipment. During the last five months about 1,450 pounds, dry weight, have been shipped to such eastern points as Chicago, Cleveland, San Antonio and Newark.

SALMON AT MONTEREY.

The king salmon season just closed at Monterey resulted in one-half the normal season catch. The early run was not caught heavily because of a fishermen's strike and the late season run was light and ended early. The run of silver-side salmon was also light, but extended over a longer period than is usually credited to this fish. The silver salmon is said to suddenly appear in Monterey Bay, run heavily for a few days and suddenly disappear, but notes kept on the 1919 season show them as caught in small numbers between May 10 and July 26, with a heavy catch on four or five days during the period.

DRY SALTING FISH AT MONTEREY.

There are at present twelve firms engaged in the business of hard or dry salting fish at Monterey, representing an approximate investment of $50,000. One firm has invested $7,000 in equipment since last year. In addition, there are eight fresh-fish dealers who do considerable dry salting during otherwise slack periods. Several firms that operated last year have not yet opened up for business, September and October being the big months in the hard salting industry. The chief product is sardines in the form of salachini pressed into round 100, 65 and 50 pound tubs. Anchovies are usually put up in 5, 8 and 10 pound cans although some anchovy and sardine paste is made. Mackerel is salted in 200-pound barrels.

As yet the trade will not take any great quantity of these relatively new products on this coast, but the hard salt business promises to develop into a well established and increasingly large industry in the future.

SQUID AT MONTEREY.

This year for the first time in several years squid have been caught in quantity at Monterey. Three Chinese firms have dried this season about 1,772,000 pounds (fresh weight) of squid. Three tons of wet squid furnish one ton dried. Due to high labor cost this year the squid were not cleaned, merely dried on the ground, raked up and sacked. Fishermen were paid $10 per ton for the catch and the dried product sacked ready for shipment is valued at 6 to 7 cents per pound. Practically all this sacked product is shipped to China.

In addition, small quantities of squid have been canned in half pound rounds. The appreciation of fresh squid as a table delicacy is slowly growing, but people who delight in oysters and eels usually balk at squid tentacles till they have tried them once.

DO FISHERMEN GO FAR ENOUGH TO SEA TO GET THE FISH?

It is the belief of some of the canners of southern California that such pelagic fish as the tunas and albacores may be found in large numbers farther off shore than the fishermen usually fish. As the tuna canning industry has grown the fishermen have been getting larger boats and are fishing, during the latter part of the season, twenty to thirty miles off shore. Incoming ships have observed what they have taken to be schools of long finned tuna ("albacore") some two hundred miles off shore. To determine if

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these fish are abundant at this distance off shore the Fish and Game Commission's launch "Albacore" was detailed to make an investigation and succeeded in finding albacore in abundance near San Nicholas or about eighty miles off the mainland. If these fish can be found in numbers at a greater distance off shore, larger fishing boats will be built and preparations made to fish farther at sea when tuna are not to be found closer to shore.

LARGE SALMON CATCH AT FORT BRAGG.

While the salmon catch this summer at Monterey was only half the usual amount the catch of salmon by trolling has been exceptionally large in the vicinity of Point Reyes in Marin County and near Fort Bragg and Shelter Cove on the northern California coast. The data has not yet been compiled, but it is believed the catch at Point Reyes as well as the catch near Fort Bragg has been double that of last year.

THE SACRAMENTO RUN OF SALMON.

After the opening of the season on the Sacramento River August 1, salmon ran in small numbers until August 28, when the fishermen began to get large catches in their gill nets and everything indicated that what is termed the "fall run" was on. The fish appeared to be larger than average and several very large individuals have been recorded. One was landed at the plant of the Western Fish Company at Pittsburg which exceeded seventy pounds in weight. No scales were taken from this salmon in order that its age might be determined, but judging from other large individuals whose age was determined from an examination of their scales it was not less than seven years old.

The appearance of the salmon being delivered at Pittsburg early in September would indicate that they would spawn early this year. They had more the appearance of fish which run three weeks later and it was argued by the fish dealers that the salmon run would end much sooner than usual.

Fig. 62. Looking down the Noyo River from the boat harbor at Noyo, California. This is the center of the salmon fishing industry of the north coast. Wonacotes photo.

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Fig. 63. Scene on Noyo River showing salmon fishing boats. Wonacotes photo.

NOTES FROM THE STATE FISHERIES LABORATORY.*

By WILL F. THOMPSON and ELMER HIGGINS.

THE RECURRENCE OF THE FRIGATE MACKEREL.

In CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME for October, 1918 (Volume 4, Number 4, page 183), the first occurrence of the frigate mackerel, *Auxis thazard*, was noted. This was one of the remarkable features of the unusual summer season of 1918. At that time small catches were made in company with catches of skipjack (*Euthynnus*), yellow-fin tuna and some mackerel (*Scomber*). This year slightly larger individual boat catches were made of the frigate mackerel, but as the majority of the canneries refused them, they were not brought in as often. One catch of five tons was recorded by a single boat on the nineteenth of August. The first noted by the writer came in on the seventeenth of August, and the last on the twenty-second. Other catches at earlier and later dates were undoubtedly made, but the data have not yet been obtained from the statistical records. The average weight of these fish was 1.3 pounds before cleaning, and the loss of weight in cleaning and preparing for canning was very high. Therefore those canneries which accepted the species at the start of the run later refused to take any except for fertilizer.

It may be noted in connection with this species that mention of very young tuna or albacore may refer to the taking or observation of schools of the frigate mackerel. Fishermen unfamiliar with them, as was usually the case, were inclined to promptly refer them to the young of other species of the tuna group, frequently the blue-fin.—W. F. T.

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 12.

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THE SPAWNING OF THE GRUNION.

In Fish Bulletin No. 3, relating to the spawning of *Leuresthes tenuis*, the grunion, there is given on page 14 a chart showing the relation of the tides to the spawning times. As the paper was published on July 15, before the spawning season was over, no spawning periods were shown in July and August. However, since then, runs were observed on July 15, July 16 and August 14.

The runs on July 15 and 16 were small, but larger than that on August 14. The full moon occurred July 13 and August 11 (Greenwich mean civil time). Mr. Henry Shands, a field assistant for the laboratory, observed the run during July in the absence of the writer, and states that it was noticed by a considerable number of people, who remained on the beach to collect the fish. The run during August was observed by the writer, but so few fish were noticed that it seemed an accident to have taken them at all. Hence, although the fish were obtained on but one night, this fact does not mean that grunion did not run the usual three nights. No people were observed on the beach capturing the fish, this fact corroborating the observed small size of the run.

It will be noted, from the above-mentioned chart, that August 14 was the last date on which the grunion might be expected to run during the year 1919.—W. F. T.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANADIAN BIOLOGY.

Among additions to the library is a series of publications from the Canadian Biological Stations,* being studies made under the direction of the Biological Board of Canada, Professor E. E. Prince, Commissioner of Fisheries, Chairman. Included with them is a volume devoted to the Canadian Fisheries Expedition (Department of the Naval Service 1919), during which material was gathered for studies of the Canadian herring, the eggs and larvæ of the eastern coast of Canada, the hydrography of the region, etc., by Dr. Johan Hjort, and various associates. The publications are noteworthy, aside from the undoubted merit of the contributions, in that throughout many recent numbers there is an attempt to apply to American species the technique developed during the study of European fisheries by the International Council for the Study of the Sea.

The volume published under the direction of Dr. Johan Hjort includes in its covers two papers which are in good part general in character, dealing with the principles of the Norwegian work on the life history of the herring and of hydrographic work, the former by Einar Lea and the latter by J. W. Sandstrom. These papers will well repay the perusal both of the beginner and of the investigator, especially in the absence of general works dealing with the subjects.—W. F. T.

*Contributions to Canadian Biology, Supplements to the Annual Reports of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, Fisheries Branch, Ottawa, Canada.

BLUE-FIN AND YELLOW-FIN TUNA.

The catch of blue-fin tuna during 1919 was largely the work of purse seine boats, operating during the last part of the season in the northern waters around Santa Cruz Island. However, during the height of the run off Catalina Island, the schools invaded the prohibited waters of District 20. The statistics of the catch obtained during the subsequent weeks do not, therefore, give an accurate idea of the *abundance* of the fish because of the attempts of the seiners to evade the law, and the issuance of an injunction (August 13) against deputies seeking to enforce it. They are accurate, of course, in regard to the quantity taken.

A potential source of more serious error in statistics arose during the last part of August in the confusion by the weighers of yellow-fin with blue-fin tuna. The albacore boats began, about the twenty-fifth of August, to bring in numbers of large yellow-fin tuna (*Germo macropterus*), landing them at the canneries, in company with many smaller tuna. A close examination of these fish throughout the period of their run, which was not over on September 2, proved these fish to be usually of the one species, the "yellow-fin" tuna. It will be, in fact, a safe procedure to call nearly all tuna caught by albacore boats (other than combination net boats, which were not operating) during this period this species, in contradistinction to the blue-fin tuna.

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landed by the purse seine boats. But that even this leaves a certain error is undeniable, numbers of blue-fin tuna being brought in.

This is, incidentally, the first year in which these large yellow-fin tuna have been taken in this quantity in these waters. Last year the yellow-fin tuna taken were small, always under 30 pounds, while this year 75-pound fish (cleaned) were not rare, and one of them weighed 175 pounds cleaned, and was 65 inches in length. In fact, the blue-fin, or leaping, tuna did not exceed the size of these fish. It was not to be wondered at that these large, magnificent fish were at once called leaping tuna, traditionally the largest of our species.

However, the writer has satisfied himself by careful examination of a considerable series of fish that confusion need arise but very rarely between the species. Careful measurements have been taken of the body and fin proportions and compared according to standard methods used by ichthyologists in distinguishing species, but the more obvious characteristics may be reviewed here for the use of those who wish them, in view of the need for accuracy in statistics.

Color. The high fins above and below the fish (dorsal and anal fins) are usually tinged with yellow in the yellow-fin tuna, while they are as a rule dark in the blue-fin. The small finlets behind these are usually a brighter yellow in the yellow-fin.

The lower side of the body in both species bears characteristic markings, especially in the young. In the yellow-fin the marks tend to arrange themselves in alternate narrow transverse lines and rows of spots, and are smaller than those of the blue-fin, in which the spots are generally in transverse rows without intervening lines. In both species these spots become lengthened toward the tail. When freshly caught the yellow-fin, the young especially, has a strong lemon yellow tinge over most of the body, which is lacking in the blue-fin.

Pectoral fin. The length of the long side fin is the most obvious and reliable character by which the species can be distinguished, but very rarely a yellow-fin is found with a short fin. In the yellow-fin this side fin is almost always slightly shorter than the head, measured from the tip of the snout, and is not less than five-sixths of its length. In the blue-fin, this side fin is always less than two-thirds of the head length, and usually but three-fifths.

Head. The yellow-fin tuna has, as a rule, but not invariably, a shorter head than the blue-fin has.

Trunk of the body. The yellow-fin has a very noticeably shorter trunk than the blue-fin, if the "trunk" is considered the length before the two fins situated above and below the body. This holds only when fish of a size are compared and very large fish are likely to be hard to distinguish. The posterior part of the body where the finlets are is nevertheless more drawn out in the yellow-fin in comparison with the rest of the fish. Up to a certain length the fish seems to grow faster posteriorly, the young yellow-fin of 25 inches in length being similar in this characteristic to blue-fin of 45 inches.

Height of fins. The height of the two fins, one above and one below the body (dorsal and anal), differ markedly in the two species, but only when specimens of a size are compared. Yellow-fin tuna have higher fins (or longer, according to the way they are considered) but a yellow-fin of 30 inches in length has fins about as long in proportion as a blue-fin of 45 or 50 inches, although those of a 45-inch yellow-fin exceed the length of those of the blue-fin by a fourth of their length.

The eye. The eyes in the blue-fin tuna are actually nearly equal to those in yellow-fins of the same size, but because of the larger head in the blue-fin, they appear much smaller. The diameter of the eye in the blue-fin averages 3.2 per cent of the length of the body, and is about one-ninth of the head length, whereas that of the yellow-fin is 3.2 per cent of the body length, but about one eighth of the head length.—W. F. T.

THE OCCURRENCE OF THE LOUVAR.

On August 6, a large fish was brought into the canneries at Fish Harbor, San Pedro, from the west end of Catalina Island, and excited much comment as a probable hybrid between a pompano and a yellowtail. This proved far from the truth, however, the specimen in reality being a member of the "wide-ranging"

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species *Luvarus imperialis* Rafinesque, once previously recorded from Catalina Island by Jordan & Starks in 1906 (as taken by Dr. C. F. Holder). It was an exceedingly active fish and very difficult to handle, although the small mouth and fine bristle-like teeth do not indicate predaceous habits.—W. F. T.

THE ABSENCE OF THE DOLPHIN FISH.

In 1918 the dolphin fish, *Coryphæna*, was frequently taken in local waters, and this fact was then often cited as evidence of a bad year for the fishing of albacore. However, this year the dolphin has not yet been in evidence (September 15), as far as we are able to determine, although the albacore season is far from normal. Indeed, the similarity between 1918 and 1919 is marked, the skipjacks (*Euthynnus*) having been running in quantity as they did last year, the frigate mackerel having appeared again, and the year being remarkable as before for the predominance of the tunas.—W. F. T.

TWO RARE FISHES.

To the lists of fish, new or rare in southern California waters, previously published may be added two species which came to the laboratory in June.

Four specimens of the pomfret, *Brama raii* (Bloch), were taken from a gill net near San Pedro by Mr. E. M. Nielson. The pomfret is an excellent food fish found in open seas, widely distributed, but taken only occasionally on our eastern or western coasts or in Europe.

Several specimens of *Cololabis saira* (Brevoort) were sent to us from San Diego by Mr. P. B. Clark, where they were taken along with a school of sardines in a round-haul net. The species is recorded from several localities on our California coast but is said to be very rare. This same species is occasionally found in large schools in Japan.—E. H.

THE "DAY" AND "NIGHT" SURF-FISHES OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Captain A. C. Tibbetts of Eureka, California, writes to the undersigned as follows:

" * * * state that the 'grunion' is the fish known here as the 'night surf-fish.' There is another known as the 'day surf-fish,' both varieties being caught in dip nets, in the same locality, viz, between Trinidad and Mad River. The Indians catch and dry these in large quantities. The 'day-fish' is larger than the 'night-fish,' has a yellowish tinge, the flesh is softer, and to my taste is inferior to the 'night-fish.' On the ninth instant (of August) I saw both kinds on sale at one of the Eureka markets. Small coasters running to the Klamath River bring occasionally to this place what is termed 'candle-fish.' These, even when salted and smoked, burn freely if a lighted match is applied to the tail. The Klamath River, as far as I know, is the only stream near here that furnishes this fish. All three of the above fishes have the appearance of smelt."

One of these species is *Thaleichthys pacificus*, the eulachon or candle fish; another is probably *Hypomesus pretiosus*, the surf-smelt, but we are not at all sure that the third is the grunion, *Leuresthes tenuis*. Both *Mallotus villosus*, the capelin, and *Leuresthes tenuis* are surf spawners and might possibly occur, and as the latter has not as yet been recorded north of Long Beach, considerable caution should be used in reaching a decision.—W. F. T.

THE OCCURRENCE OF THE ALBACORE NORTH OF SAN FRANCISCO.

Captain A. C. Tibbetts has also informed us that on September 22, 1884, he captured three albacore off the northern coast of California. His letter reads in part as follows:

"While in command of the schooner 'Volant,' I was coming from the westward, bound for Humboldt Bay, and instead of getting northerly winds as expected, at this time of year, the wind came in fresh from the southward, increasing to a strong southeaster as we approached the coast, resulting in our closing with the land to northward as well as to leeward of our port. The wind after some hours moderated, and changed to light northwest. While running for Humboldt Bar, at four to five knots speed, somewhere between Redding Rock and Trinidad Head, I noticed fish working the same as they sometimes do on the coast of southern California, and out of curiosity threw a cod line with a white rag on the hook over the stern, and when the line straightened out got an albacore. Caught three, as fast as they could be unhooked and the line put out again. The fish appeared to be abundant, but those taken were dirtying things up around the after part of the deck, so fishing was stopped."

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Captain Tibbetts is familiar with albacore, having taken them south of San Francisco. He believes the long southerly blow had reversed the usual coastal current and brought warmer water with it. Extracts from his log-book are given in his letter.

He also (October 17, 1883) records the occurrence of skipjacks (presumably *Euthynnus*) in considerable numbers 120 miles west of Trinidad, over what he thought to be a small uncharted area of shoal water, but in an area not now traveled to any extent.—W. F. T.

CONSERVATION IN OTHER STATES.

NEW YORK OPENS NEW HATCHERY.

The Conservation Commission of New York announces that the new fish hatchery at Dunkirk has been opened. This is the largest and most completely equipped of the twelve hatcheries maintained by New York and will be used largely for the propagation of the lake or greenback herring.

GAME REFUGES IN MINNESOTA.

Game refuges may be established without hearing in the state of Minnesota when all landowners concerned join in a petition. A public hearing is required otherwise. All state parks and state forest reserve lands are game refuges.

WASHINGTON FORMS STATE SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION.

Washington sportsmen have formed an organization to further the interests of all the sportsmen of that state. The object is to assist in the propagation and protection of game animals, birds and fish, to influence legislation toward this end, and to promote such social conditions as are incident to the sport of hunting and angling. Its rapid progress voices itself in the slogan, "One thousand members in 1919."

QUEBEC ESTABLISHES BIRD REFUGES.

Great bird colonies situated on islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence have been set aside as game refuges by the parliament of the province of Quebec. There are three definite areas in the county of Gaspe which are included. The first, known as Perce Rock, a breeding place for herring gulls and crested cormorants, Bonaventure Island with the largest surviving colony of the gannet, and the celebrated Bird Rock, the northernmost of the Magdalen Islands. Rigorous provisions of

Fig. 64. Deer captured while swimming in Lake Tahoe. Photograph by J. Sanders.

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the law prohibit the molestation of the birds' nests or eggs, the carrying of a gun or other hunting gear within a mile of the refuges. Any boat used in violation of the law is liable to confiscation and heavy penalties of fine or imprisonment are provided.

PENNSYLVANIA PUNISHES VIOLATORS.

Severe sentences are becoming the rule. In the *Fishing Gazette* we read that Clyde Wilsoncroft and Roy Reynolds of Drury's Run, Pennsylvania, were arrested by the state police for illegal fishing. Each had sixty-five trout in his possession. The men were given a hearing before Squire Griffey, of Revono, and fined $650 each, or $10 for each trout caught. Not being able to pay the fine, both men must serve 650 days in the county jail.

LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

WEIGHTS OF MULE DEER.

Extravagant statements regarding the weights of mule deer are current. Most weights given are mere estimates. It is worth while, therefore, to record the weights of two bucks taken in the Granite Mountains, Washoe County, Nevada, about September 1, 1908. Careful weights taken on steelyards showed 217 pounds and 220 pounds after the entrails and feet had been removed. A dressed forked horn weighed 180 pounds.—F. P. CADY.

DEER CAPTURED IN LAKE TAHOE.

On January 26, 1919, Henry Sall, the caretaker of the Hellman resort on Lake Tahoe, discovered a deer swimming in Lake Tahoe about three-quarters of a mile out from land, and he immediately took after it in a boat. It was in an exhausted condition, and showed marks of having been attacked by a coyote or other animals. Mr. Sall took the deer home and took special care of it, and Mr. Hellman procured a permit from the Fish and Game Commission to keep it. After keeping the deer in captivity for a week carefully chained, it was given its freedom, and since then it has never strayed away from the property even though it has absolute freedom to roam over 43 acres of ground. It has adopted the house cat, seven setter dogs and one Airedale dog. The deer appeared to be about eight months old when captured. Its mate was found later by J. E. Pomin of Idlewild, near the Hellman property, partly devoured by coyotes.—JOSEPH H. SANDERS.

OREGON CÆSARIAN FAWN A MOST HEALTHY LITTLE ONE.

At Neskowin, Tillamook County, Oregon, during the summer of 1917 deer hounds were heard back in the mountains.

Fig. 65. Cæsarean fawn successfully reared in Oregon. Photograph by Raymond Walsh.

Soon they appeared on the beach, having driven out a doe. The weary doe made for the breakers and started for the rocks, then well covered with water. Later when the tide receded a search was made for the deer. She was found on the rock, but in an effort to reach safety her front

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leg was broken. But, sadder yet, she was with fawn. Her life was taken and a Cæsarian was quickly undertaken by the rancher. The wee twin buck had been injured and was dead, but "Fawnie" was soon ready to eat. It was miles to any hygienic nipple and bottle, so one was improvised with a cork and straw. A bed and warmness was soon provided, but in a few days the little beggar preferred the hard floor—perhaps it was more like the sunny mountain side. Soon she was weaned and drank from the cup. Days and weeks passed, and what a pet! She was ever free to return to the mountains at any time, but she liked her foster mother too well. Later she was sent to the State Hospital Farm near Salem, where she is now well cared for.—JANE FRY WALSH.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE CO-OPERATION.

RANGERS CO-OPERATE WITH GAME WARDENS.

Probably in no season since the Forest Service began its active campaigns of fire protection, road building, and the surveying of summer home sites and other projects which tend toward making the summer vacations of the mountain-loving people of California more attractive and

Fig. 66. Young mountain lion captured nea. Helena, Trinity County, California. Photograph by H. W. Brannan.

beneficial, has it been so handicapped by the lack of experienced men as it was during the summer of 1918. It was the war, of course. But in spite of the fact that it was not able to put on so many men as formerly during the summer, and in many cases one man was doing the work of two in ordinary years, no lack of interest was displayed in its co-operation with the Fish and Game Commission. A sincere interest in the protection and perpetuation of the game resources of the state is evident in all the reports from the Forest Supervisors, and in many instances it is the forest rangers who come forward with constructive suggestions for the improvement of game conditions. This is due partly to the fact that all Forest Service officials know that wild life is as much a natural resource as timber, and that it should be used wisely and under the proper regulations, and partly because they wish to assist the State Commission through its local representatives who are in many localities a part almost of the Forest Service organization, good fellowship and mutual help being the rule between rangers and game wardens.

DEER IN THE NATIONAL FORESTS.

In looking over the reports we find that 2,943 deer were killed in the National Forests last season. This is an accurate record and is only what is actually known of the kill. In many cases the Forest Supervisors say that this does not represent the actual kill, which might readily be estimated at 10 or 15 per cent higher. In most localities they are holding their own and in some a decrease has been noticed. The chief factors which affect and have a direct bearing on the number are the extension of the road system under the spur of the autoist, and the increasing number of people who spend part of their vacation in the mountains. The most serious factor is the apparent increase in the coyotes and mountain lions. The campaign conducted by counties, the Biological Survey and the state has not yet (from the reports) been

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intensive enough to rid the mountains of these pests to any appreciable degree. Unless it is carried on more forcefully we are liable to see a steady, if not rapid, decrease in the deer. Where sheep are grazed in the mountains during the summer months the coyotes seem to prefer them as a more easy prey than the deer, attacking the latter only in the winter. But where few sheep are grazed the reports are emphatic in the assertion that coyotes do more damage than the hunters. In parts of the Klamath Forest it is impossible to raise sheep or goats unless kept within a fence, and in other sheep raising countries the coyotes take a serious toll every year.

The mountain lion is even a more implacable foe of the deer than the coyote, and if it should become as widespread in its range and habitat it would mean the sure and early doom of the deer. Fortunately, at present, the Klamath, Trinity, Shasta, California, and Santa Barbara Forests are the only ones that report serious trouble, although the El Dorado, Stanislaus and Sierra report an increase in the numbers of lion in the last year. Here the trouble is traced to the Yosemite National Park, which has been a breeding ground for them, as no hunting or trapping is allowed except by Park Rangers or government hunters. Higher bounties and more vigorous prosecution of the work of extermination of both the lion and the more prevalent and destructive coyote are vigorously recommended.

OWENS VALLEY RESIDENTS ALL GO FISHING.

A fishing day for the Owens River Valley, when almost the entire population closes stores and homes and goes out to catch the first trout of the season, has, according to Supervisor Jordan, become an established institution.

STRANGE DEER KILLED.

Ranger Harley of the Klamath Forest reports the killing of a pure white deer and a pure black one, and adds that he has seen a third and greater wonder in the deer line, one with white head, neck, legs and belly, and cream colored sides and back.

REPORTS.

SEIZURES—FISH, GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

March 1, 1919, to June 30, 1919.

Game.

Deer meat	345 pounds
Ducks	32
Doves	3
Quail	12
Deer heads	2
Algrettes	59

Fish.

Smelt	8 pounds
Halibut	3,650 pounds
Trout	78 pounds
Barracuda	1,591 pounds
Striped bass	1,971 pounds
Black bass	9 pounds
Catfish	178 pounds
Salmon	475 pounds
Yellow fin croaker	23,600 pounds
Crabs	1,031
Pismo clams	1,933
Abalones	383 pounds
Abalones (dried)	1,157 pounds
Lobsters	8
Dried shrimps	1,200 pounds
Set lines	3
Illegal nets	3

Searches.

Illegal fish and game	23

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CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS, COMPILED BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 1918

Species of fish																
Albacore																
Anchovy																
Barracuda																
Blue fish																
Bonnetto																
Bonito																
Carp																
Catfish																
Chub, spp. ?																
Chumfish																
Cutthroat trout																
Dogfish																
Eel																
Flounder																
Greenfish																
Hake																
Halibut																
Hard head																
Herring																
Kingfish																
Mackerel																
Marlin																
Mullet																
Perch																
Pike																
Pompano																
Rock bass																
Rockfish																
Salmon																
Sand dab																
Sardine																
Sculpin																
Sea bass (black)																
Sea bass (white)																
Sea trout																
Shad																
Shad (buck)																
Shad (roe)																

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Sheepshead												456		200	656	
Skate								92,832				315			93,147	
Skipjack												9		104	113	10,665
Smelt	14,081		20,132					29,916	12,761	11,783	613	26,608	375	2,752	110,024	
Sole		15			187			1,167,333	174,682	25,569	11,980	18,899		222	1,398,200	
Splittail															187	
Striped bass			771	92,935	53,700		102,726	49,077							299,209	
Stingaree																
Suckers					360		43								403	
Surf fish																
Sword fish																
Tom cod								13,021							13,021	
Trout (farm)																
Trout (steelhead)																
Tuna														33,165	33,165	164,511
Tuna (blue fin)																
Tuna (yellow fin)												1,659,119			1,659,119	
Turbot			1,030					183				331,729			332,942	
White bait			36					2,792							2,828	
Yellowtail											191	421,663	26	381,014	802,894	4,580
Miscellaneous					599			5,001	28	1,328	18,945	151,128	162	2,804	179,995	3,903
Total fish	50,395	456,398	229,916	777,585	355,401	148,614	1,620,696	2,577,480	843,224	4,636,851	192,990	29,823,807	75,982	6,019,498	47,308,837	337,437
Crustaceans—																
Crabs (doz.)								20,996	120	8					21,124	
Ecrevisse (doz.)																
Shrimp								256,232							256,232	
Spiny lobster																
Mollusks—																
Abalones	450									33,550	151,738				185,738	
Clams (cockle)			9,040									211			9,251	
Clams (mixed)	6,880		13,261					80				55			20,256	
Clams (pismo)											138,553				138,553	
Clams (soft shell)		3,565	11,631				73,387								88,583	
Cuttlefish								1,299	142	809	107	3,812			6,269	
Mussels	140						1,600				2,779	2,432			6,951	
*Oyster (shell) No.			252,450												252,450	
†Oyster, lbs.			22,985												22,985	
Snails																
Squid									92	3,612,357		6,622			3,619,071	
Miscellaneous—																
Frogs (doz.)								305							305	

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CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS. COMPILED BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES—APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 1919.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt.	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake.	Marin.	Solano, Yolo.	Sacramento, San Joaquin.	Tehama, Glenn, Colusa.	Contra Costa, Alameda.	San Francisco, San Mateo.	Santa Cruz.	Monterey.	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura.	Los Angeles.	Orange.	San Diego.	Total.	Mexico.
Albacore												375,221		277,745	652,966	17
Anchovy			146,100					499		76,040		249,062			471,692	
Barracuda												1,749,273	37,840	535,436	2,322,549	22,719
Blue fish									13	11,773					11,786	
Bocaccio								6,168	70	161,575					167,813	
Bonito											23	34,679	274	29,935	64,911	375
Carp		3,455		1,661	42,468		10,013	13,252							70,852	
Catfish		9,725		6,351	46,503		24,359								86,938	
Chilipepper								125,827		931					126,758	
Coalfish								23,520		715					24,235	
Cultus cod	254	8,266						320,028	6,304	8,826		1,791			345,469	
Dogfish							273	20,405		3,152	475	8,390		56,344	89,039	
Eel								10							10	
Flounder	1,050		730	1,335			269	152,988	4,785	439	725	1,479	61		163,631	
Greenfish												2,405			2,405	
Hake								37,575	6,855	710		959		2,870	48,969	
Halibut	4,948	24,772	465					8,342	854	3,726	116,506	522,809	33,419	180,160	896,001	101,485
Hard head					5,397										5,397	
Herring	150		16,670				1,470	3,710							22,000	
Kingfish								14,351	12,614	36,813	198	37,766	21	674	102,432	
Mackerel									7	16,016	2,799	761,737	2,473	18,230	801,262	2,115
Marlin																
Mullet												270			270	
Perch	8,442		31,559				47	1,384	5,933	228		569		860	49,022	1,140
Pike				8	752		141								901	
Pompano								67	571	41		2,019		199	2,897	
Rock bass											58	57,156	890	94,760	152,774	120
Rockfish	3,718	993						99,183	21,518	50,639	36,929	103,529	61	102,757	419,457	20,315
Salmon	17,752	409,172	12,252	315,359	90,984	148,614	468,832	60,756	482,556	2,014,266					4,020,543	
Sand dab								315,956	15,489	1,100	133	2,258			334,689	
Sardine								4,825	95,525	2,079,720		22,067,551		4,260,642	28,639,598	
Sculpin												5,427			5,427	
Sea bass (black)											295	4,786	175	9,573	14,829	2,982
Sea bass (white)			171						2,453	96	3,275	720,033	295	27,051	753,877	2,510
Sea trout												5,193		2,001	7,194	
Shad				40,179	83,730		3,717	8,585				25			136,036	
Shad (buck)				143,815	14,050		270,875								428,740	
Shad (roe)				175,989	16,671		737,931								930,541	

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Sheepshead													456		200	656	
Skate								92,632					315			93,147	
Skipjack													9		104	113	10,665
Smelt	14,061		20,132					29,916	12,764	11,783	613	26,608	375	2,752	110,024	
Sole		15						1,167,333	174,682	25,569	11,980	18,899		222	1,398,200	
Splittail					187										187	
Striped bass			771	92,935	58,700		102,726	49,077							299,209	
Stingaree																
Suckers					360		43								403	
Surf fish																
Sword fish																
Tom cod								13,021							13,021	
Trout (farm)																
Trout (steelhead)																
Tuna														33,165	33,165	164,511
Tuna (blue fin)																
Tuna (yellow fin)												1,059,119			1,059,119	
Turbot			1,030					183				331,729			332,942	
White bait			36					2,792							2,828	
Yellowtail											191	421,663	26	381,014	802,894	4,580
Miscellaneous					599			5,001	28	1,328	18,945	151,128	162	2,804	179,995	3,903
Total fish	50,395	456,398	229,916	777,595	355,401	148,614	1,620,696	2,577,480	843,224	4,636,851	192,990	29,323,807	75,982	6,019,498	47,308,837	337,437
Crustaceans—																
Crabs (doz.)								20,996	120	8					21,124	
Ecrevisse (doz.)																
Shrimp								256,232							256,232	
Spiny lobster																
Mollusks—																
Abalones	450		9,040							33,550	151,738				185,738	
Clams (cockle)			13,261									211			9,251	
Clams (mixed)	6,860							80				55			20,256	
Clams (pismo)											138,553				138,553	
Clams (soft shell)		3,565	11,631				73,387								88,583	
Cuttlefish								1,399	142	809	107	3,812			6,269	
Mussels	140						1,600				2,779	2,432			6,951	
*Oyster (shell) No.			252,450												252,450	
†Oyster, lbs.			22,985												22,985	
Snails																
Squid									92	3,612,357		6,622			3,619,071	
Miscellaneous—																
Frogs (doz.)								205							305	
Terrapin (doz.)	2	2						63							67	
Turtle																2,239

*Eastern. †Native.

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

March 1, 1919, to June 30, 1919.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without a license	7	$155 00
Deer—close season—killing or possession	22	460 00
Female deer, spike bucks, fawns—killing or possession	2	50 00
Running deer with dogs—close season	1	25 00
Illegal deer hides	1	25 00
Refusing to show license on demand	3	35 00
Selling an eagle	1	5 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	5	55 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season—killing or possession	3	75 00
Wild pheasant—close season—killing or possession	1	100 00
Tree squirrel—close season—killing or possession	1	
Goose and mudhens—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Ducks—close season—killing or possession	1	50 00
Golden eagle in possession	1	25 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	3	50 00
Quail—close season—killing or possession	3	75 00
Black sea brant—close season—killing or possession	1	
Total game violations	57	$1,210 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	16	$430 00
Fishing for profit without a license	19	160 00
Refusing to show license on demand	1	25 00
Clams—undersize—close season—taking or possession	9	250 00
Crabs—undersize—close season—taking or possession	10	80 00
Using a set line	2	
Offering trout for shipment by parcel post	2	50 00
Trout—close season—excess limit—taking or possession	17	410 00
Trout—taking other than by hook and line	2	50 00
Catfish—undersize—offering for sale	3	60 00
Salt water eels—undersize—taking or possession	2	120 00
Using a fish trap	1	100 00
Dried shrimps—possession	2	
Abalones—close season—undersize—taking or possession	26	550 00
Spring lobsters—close season—undersize—taking or possession	4	80 00
Sturgeon—close season—undersize—taking or possession	2	40 00
Black bass—close season—undersize—taking or possession	1	20 00
Black bass—taking other than by hook and line	1	50 00
Striped bass—undersize—excess limit—taking or possession		
Perch—buying or selling—close season	2	30 00
Selling young fish for bait	1	20 00
Taking salmon with snag hook	1	100 00
Buying and selling salmon taken in District No. 1—close season—excess limit	3	300 00
Using a net less than ½-inch mesh for bass	1	20 00
Pollution of waters	1	
Total fish violations	132	$2,985 00
Grand total fish and game violations	189	$4,195 00

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—YEAR 1919.

Items of expense	January	February	March	April	May
General administration	$1,770 04	$2,079 71	$1,903 79	$2,220 16	$2,172 26
Research, publicity and educational (game)	280 68	242 33	349 62	368 16	259 82
Printing	841 07	722 18	78 89	102 51	628 86
Fish exhibits					
Game exhibits					
Tahoe camping ground					
Mountain lion bounties	1,140 00	680 00	980 00	890 00	470 00
Lithographing hunting licenses					
Lithographing angling licenses					
Hunting license commissions	1,675 00	631 50	1,533 90	1,162 70	1,006 50
Angling license commissions	1,090 10	215 70	894 20	1,234 90	623 10
Market fishing license commissions	10 00	25 00	230 50	149 50	103 00
Hunting lions					
	$6,807 09	$4,596 72	$5,970 90	$6,127 87	$5,263 54
San Francisco district	$6,115 72	$6,009 58	$5,851 79	$6,383 82	$6,491 09
Sacramento District	3,936 85	3,825 74	4,225 44	4,235 63	4,662 93
Los Angeles District	2,504 87	2,627 60	2,379 75	2,524 90	2,397 03
Launch patrol	1,048 47	1,112 30	1,008 73	1,059 40	6,233 47
Prosecutions (fish and game)	129 45	64 00	86 60	67 25	260 00
Crawfish inspections	200 00	200 00	300 00	100 00	58 06
Winter game feeding					
Accident and death claims	124 04	161 10	124 04	155 05	124 04
	$14,059 40	$14,000 92	$13,976 35	$14,526 05	$20,226 62
Hatchery administration	$967 20	$980 29	$977 96	$1,168 05	$1,245 86
Mount Shasta hatchery	2,097 03	1,403 00	1,704 90	2,527 52	4,425 28
Klamath station	487 82	111 00	5 00	56 00	5 00
Fall Creek hatchery	448 12	792 86	1,020 13	1,039 91	798 70
Mount Whitney hatchery	1,070 01	2,046 22	1,184 98	1,572 61	1,676 33
Cottonwood Creek station		163 75	161 65	217 67	82 81
Cottonwood Lakes station				22 12	2 55
Tahoe hatchery	6 00	5 00		5 00	5 00
Tallac hatchery	5 00	5 00	354 07	501 50	1,276 49
Chico experimental station					

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Item of expense	January	February	[illegible]	April	May
Fort Seward hatchery	368 50	322 41	279 50	348 47	336 07
Eel River station	28 77				
Ukiah hatchery	1 50			214 90	547 32
Snow Mountain station	91 83	377 05	427 10	382 14	241 00
Brookdale hatchery	391 44	488 46	278 22	236 15	283 91
Scott Creek station	61 00	92 47	70 00	140 70	69 05
Feather River hatchery		1 20			
Almanor hatchery	12 44	367 40	154 00	172 50	186 52
Domingo Springs hatchery			202 25	191 75	238 72
Clear Creek hatchery					57 75
Bear Lake Hatchery				200 00	
North Creek station	1 03	19 75	386 86	723 17	990 51
Wawona hatchery					178 45
Yosemite hatchery			15 48	371 58	194 22
Kaweah hatchery				148 10	129 58
Fish transplanting	3 00	3 00	3 00	3 00	3 00
Screens, fishways and water pollution	456 36	545 09	649 30	712 09	809 78
Special field investigation					
Department of Commercial Fisheries	$6,517 05 2,449 80	$7,723 95 2,647 27	$7,874 40 2,836 84	$10,954 93 2,796 35	$13,783 85 3,377 57
	$29,833 34	$28,968 86	$30,658 49	$34,405 20	$42,651 58

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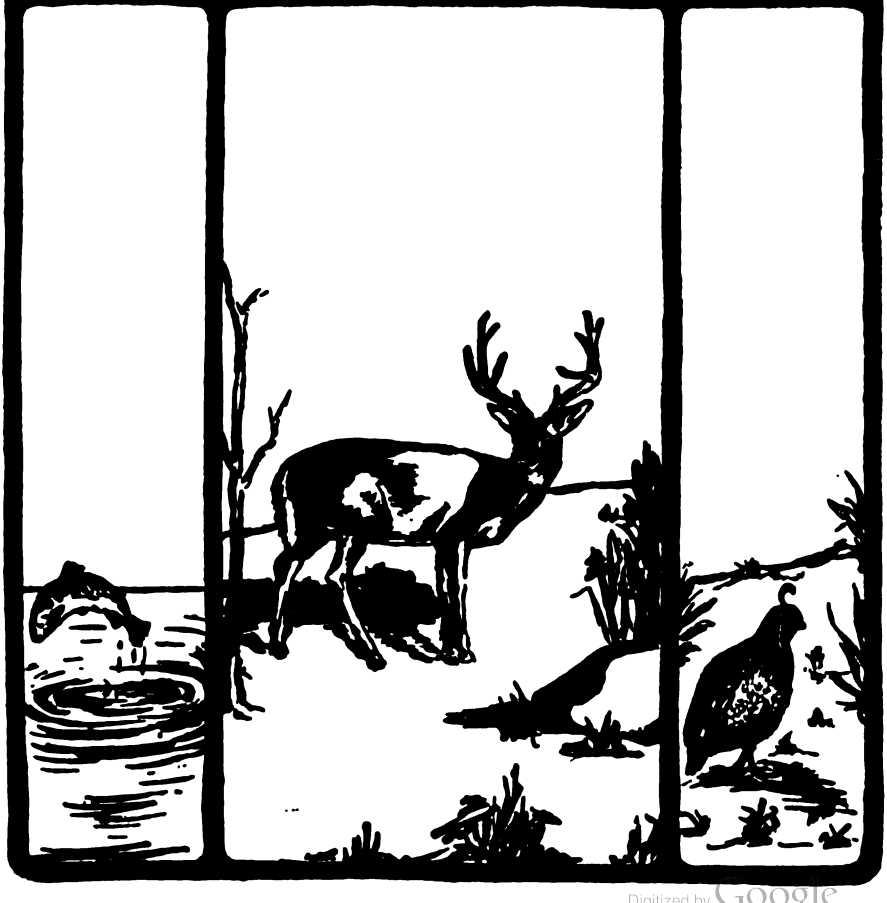

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"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

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NOTES ON DRY-FLY FISHING. No. 2.

By R. L. M., California.

In the first of this series of notes on dry-fly fishing I believe I was, to a certain extent, successful in dispelling the cloud of fog or mystery that surrounds the art in the mind of the average man; but before going any further into the technique of the dry-fly school, I propose to trace the history of this modern method of catching fish, which is described by Emerson Hough as being "the most beautiful form of the most beautiful sport." (Extract from a letter to the author.)

I have already remarked that, if a new fly is dropped on the surface of the water, it will float as long as it keeps dry. It is quite probable that those Macedonian fishermen mentioned by Aelian in "De Animalium Natura" (A. D. 230) were aware of this fact. Since this writer, the first who describes fly-fishing and a method of dressing flies, was not a very accurate recorder, we may take it that practically all his observations on nature were made second hand, consequently, we must not put too much reliance on his description of the flies used. Furthermore, the lengths of rods and lines that he states were used, were entirely too short for any practical purpose.

Scotcher ("Fly-Fisher's Legacy," 1807) makes, I believe, the first mention in print of the fact that a new fly will float. This fact, which

can hardly be called a discovery, is known to every one who has ever fished to any extent with a wet fly. In a little book ("Anglers' Desideratum," 1839) the author, Capt. Clarke, R. N., describes a method of catching fish on hot sunshiny days, which has all the earmarks of dry-fly fishing with the single exception of floating the fly.

The late Emlyn M. Gill in his book "Practical Dry-Fly Fishing" (New York, 1915), writes of Mr. G. P. R. Pulman having "explained dry-fly methods in 1851." This explanation, which appears on page 132 of Pulman's "Vade Mecum" (1851, 3d ed.—the two earlier editions made no mention of the dry-fly) is not of very great length. so I will include it in this brief history:

> Let a dry fly be substituted for the wet one, the line switched a few times through the air to throw off its superabundant moisture, a judicious cast made just above the rising fish, and the fly allowed to float towards and over them, and the chances are ten to one that it will be seized as readily as a living insect.

Although the foregoing leaves very little undone to be a full description of dry-fly fishing, I do not think that in the light of latter-day evidence we can call Mr. Pulman a dry-fly man as the term is understood today. What he really did do was to emphasize the importance of the first cast with a new (dry) fly. His son in a recent letter told me: "I recollect that he (my father) often told me to dry the fly by flicking it about before taking a cast over a rising fish. He invariably fished down stream with two wet flies."

If we leave Mr. Pulman's description on one side as being doubtful, or of the nature of the Scotch verdict "not proven," the first real mention in print of dry-fly fishing is found in "A Book on Angling" (Francis Francis, 1867). Although there are over four hundred and fifty pages in this angling classic, only on three or four of them is there any slight reference to this new art of fly fishing. At the time Mr. Francis wrote this book he evidently did not attach any great importance to dry-fly fishing. David Foster ("The Scientific Angler," 1882) makes occasional references to dry-fly fishing and in some of the later editions there is a colored plate of dry flies. In the "Badminton Library" (1885) Mr. H. S. Hall gives a short but complete treatise of the art, together with the dressings for eighteen dry flies. Both Halford and Foster give Mr. Hall the credit for the invention or adaption of the eyed hook to flies of small size such as are used for dry-fly work.

The literature relating to the art may be said to have still been in an embryotic, if not a chaotic, state, when in 1886 Frederick M. Halford published his first work, viz., "Floating Flies and How to Dress Them." Besides fairly extensive contributions to periodicals devoted to sport, he found time in the following years to produce: "Dry-Fly Fishing in Theory and Practice"; "Dry-Fly Entomology"; "Making a Fishery"; "An Angler's Autobiography"; "Modern Development of the Dry-Fly"; and finally in 1913 "The Dry-Fly Man's Handbook." This last work has somewhat of an analogy to Rudyard Kipling's "Day's Work." Between its covers is epitomized the knowledge and experience of a lifetime devoted to fishing.

Of late years it has become the fashion among a certain class to question and even to ridicule some of his theories, but it should not be forgotten that Mr. Halford never put a line on paper until he had satisfactorily demonstrated its correctness by painstaking attention to detail and laborious study. If I may be allowed to use a distinctively

American colloquialism: "Halford put the dry-fly on the map"; that sums the matter up in a single sentence.

Among the other books devoted to the art I might mention "Fly Fishing," 1899, by Viscount Grey of Fallodon, or as he was known then, Sir Edward Grey.

On this side of the Atlantic besides Mr. Emlyn M. Gill's book already mentioned, the following have appeared: "The Dry-Fly and Fast Water," by George M. L. La Branche (N. Y., 1914); "Fishing with Floating Flies," by S. G. Camp (N. Y., 1916); and possibly one or two others.

The use of the dry-fly in America is of quite recent occurrence. The fact of the matter is that, until lately, our rivers and streams were swarming with fish that seemed only too anxious to rise to any artificial fly that was presented to them; but increasing population and better methods of transportation have brought many more men to the waterside in quest of sport than was formerly the case. The trout have become more wary and greater finesse has to be employed in their capture; consequently the dry-fly has been utilized as a means of overcoming their increased shyness. It is only to be expected that in England, with its denser population, these same conditions arose earlier than they did over here.

There are two rivers in the south of that country which are preeminently dry-fly streams. I refer to the Test and the Itchen. Sometime during the forties or fifties of the last century the dry-fly was first used on these waters. (See "Chalk Stream and Moorland," Russell, London, 1911).

To no single individual can be given the credit for the discovery, invention or development of the art of dry-fly fishing. I believe that what actually did happen is that different men hit on much the same thing about the same time. Their knowledge, which in the beginning was purely local and personal, became in the course of time more general, so that by the time the late sixties arrived, the art can be considered to have been fairly well established on these two rivers and on other streams of a similar character that are found in the south of England.

But although dry-fly fishing was quite common, so much so as to be considered the sole means of catching trout by some; in fact, Mr. Halford states that the dry-fly was used exclusively on the Wandle for the last half century, i.e., since 1863. (See "The Dry-Fly man's Hand Book," p. 66), it was not the universal method that it is today on these typical dry-fly waters.

"The Chronicles of the Houghton Fishing Club" were printed in 1908. This club has been in existence since 1822 and during most of that time leased or owned riparian rights on the Test. From the historical point of view there is not a great deal of information to be derived from a perusal of the Chronicles, which deal chiefly with fish caught and other matters; but we can glean some information both useful and interesting.

In the early days when the May fly (Green Drake) was up, the club members used to catch fish by "blowing." This consisted of using the natural fly as a bait together with a long light bamboo rod and a floss silk line. The wind was allowed to carry out (blow) the bait over the water, and by proper manipulation of the rod the fly was

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dropped on the surface just above a feeding trout. (Information contained in a letter from A. N. Gilbey, honorary secretary of the club, to the author; also see chapter XXIII, "Fishing," Vol. I, "Country Life Library of Sport" [London 1905].) "Blowing" was still practiced as late as the early nineties. The first mention in the Club Chronicles of the capture of a trout on the artificial May fly is on June 6, 1888; but a much earlier record of such a feat on the same part of this river is made by Col. Peter Hawker, of Longparish House, in his Diary, viz, June 11, 1817.

The sixties may be regarded as the transition period. During these years the dry-fly was becoming more common and the wet-fly was fast disappearing. Mr. J. Ernest Pain, who has lived at Chilbolton on the Test since the early seventies, told me that an old fly book belonging to an uncle, which was used in 1860, contained nothing but wet flies.

In the seventies the dry-fly was almost universal. Writing about the fishing on the Itchen from 1877 to 1880, Lord Grey remarks: "These Winchester trout taught us the necessity of using fine gut and small flies, and of floating the fly accurately over a rising fish." Even so the wet fly had not quite entirely vanished from these rivers. As late as 1890 a relative of mine who had owned fishings on the Test since 1850, told me that he never used the dry-fly and that he considered it a modern innovation that was quite unnecessary. As he had a number of fine specimen fish mounted in glass cases, his contention would seem to have been fairly proved; but such is not the case at all. My relative did all his fishing on his own private water where the trout were not harried by any one except himself and an occasional friend. There were weeks, nay months, when these fish never had a line cast over them and therefore we can readily believe that they could be taken on a wet-fly. The dining room of his fishing cottage projected over the river. There was a short distance on both sides of the house where fishing was never permitted, but his daughter told me that when her father and the keepers were away she used to catch these trout, with bread for bait, from the window. On the other hand at Winchester where Lord Grey fished, there were always a number of other men fishing and the trout became highly sophisticated. Earlier in his book Lord Grey speaks of the absolute lack of sport he experienced with the wet-fly on these waters, and it was not until he used a dry-fly that he had any success at all. ("Fly-Fishing," p. 108.) I consider that these facts amply prove the contention of most dry-fly men, viz: That fish can be and are caught with a properly presented dry-fly, which would not look at, much less take, a wet-fly.

Before the end of the last century certain rivers in England had become dry-fly waters, i.e., the use of anything but the dry-fly was prohibited, and it was regarded as a heinous offense to do otherwise.

The history of the art on this side of the Atlantic is brief; in fact I might almost say that it is in the making today. Dry-fly fishing has been practiced for some few years on the Catskill and other streams in the eastern states and is occasionally met with on our western rivers; but the necessity for it has not arisen except in a few localities where fishermen are almost as numerous as the fish. I learned the art in the eighties, but for years I fished almost entirely with a wet-fly, only occasionally using a dry-fly for an exceptionally cautious fish. However, of late years I have found the fish much wiser and not so easy to

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catch. The automobile is mainly responsible for this condition. Fifteen years ago I used to very rarely meet others bent on fishing, but nowadays I have frequently counted as many as ten men in sight at once lined out along the stream. Consequently I have been, for some years past, using nothing but the dry-fly; and I think it is only a question of time when the dry-fly will be much more generally used on American trout streams than it is at present.

THE YOUNG OF THE BLACK SEA-BASS.*

By Elmer Higgins.

One of the most picturesque fishes of Southern California, well known and appreciated by sportsmen and commercial fishermen alike, is the giant black sea-bass or California jewfish, *Stereolepis gigas* Ayres. It is a common sight to see one of these huge fishes hung up by the jaw before fish markets and on pleasure piers, surrounded by wondering tourists. But although over a million pounds are landed yearly in the markets, the fish caught all range in size from about three to six feet in length. The commercial fishermen never admit having seen a jewfish less than one and a half or two feet in length, and all declare them to be dull black in color and without markings, as are the larger ones.

Imagine our surprise then, when we discovered that certain pretty little bass-like fishes from the hauls of the boat "Albacore" were the young of the jewfish! These resembled the huge, ugly adults neither in form, color, nor markings, as may be seen from figure 1.

Several specimens of the young of the jewfish have been taken in the otter trawls of the "Albacore" in shallow water on the Southern

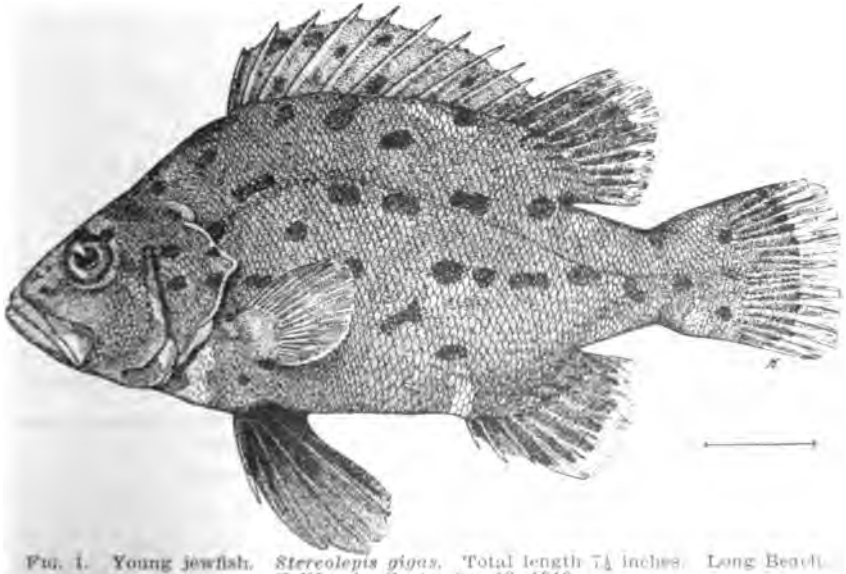

Fig. 1. Young jewfish. *Stereolepis gigas*. Total length 7¼ inches. Long Beach, California, September 13, 1919.

*California State Fisheries Laboratory. Contribution No. 13.

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California coast at different dates: December, 1918, specimen 1½ inches long; April, 1919, specimens 4 to 4¼ inches long; and September, 1919, specimens 7½ to 9 inches long. The depths were from 4 to 15 fathoms.

The most striking change in the development of the jewfish is that of color and markings. The younger specimens are a rich brick-red in color and marked with conspicuous dark brown or black spots irregularly scattered over the back and sides. There are also white or pale yellow splashes here and there on the body, especially on the throat and ventral side of the tail. The vertical fins are black with conspicuous transparent edges, the ventrals black, and the pectorals pale or transparent. As the fish grows older the body color darkens and the spots become indistinct until the whole color is a uniform dark brown or dull black, except for the light patches on the throat and ventral surface of the tail which often persist even in the larger adults. All the fins become black except the ventrals, which, though black in the young, are lighter than the pectorals in the adult, showing white membrane between the black fin rays.

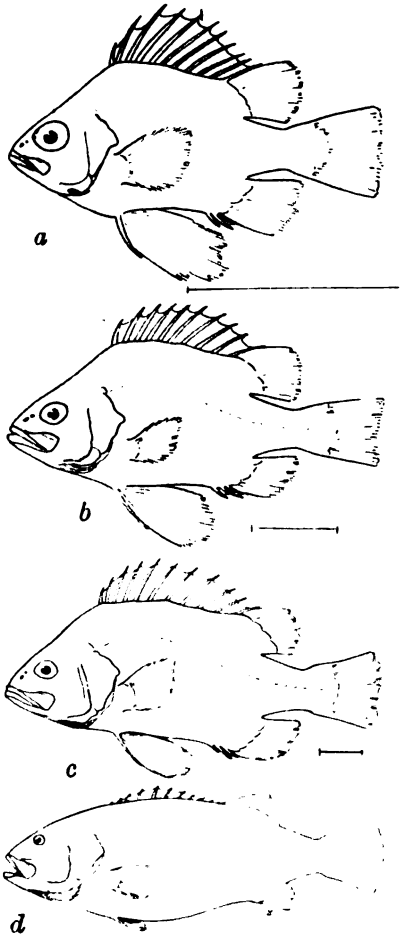

FIG. 2. Changes in the development of the jewfish. Size of specimens: *a*. 1½ inches long; *b*. 4⅜ inches; *c*. 9 inches; *d*. 72 inches (weight 305 lbs).

The change of form in the development of the fish is almost equally as marked. Figure 2, in which all the stages are reduced to one size, illustrates graphically the change in body proportions and size of fins, from the smallest specimen to the largest. It seems that the dorsal fin is practically submerged by the growth of the body, and indeed one or two of the dorsal spines are often entirely covered by the flesh. The remarkable change in the proportions of the pectoral and ventral fins is also evident. In the young the pectorals are about .23 of the body length and the ventrals are .40, while in the adult the pectorals are about .15 and the ventrals .12.

That the young of the jewfish or black sea-bass should be spotted or brightly marked is not surprising when we remember other closely related Serranoids which are brilliantly marked, such as our kelp bass, the striped bass, or the groupers of Florida and the West Indies, and it is indeed strange that they have not been recognized before. But the bright color and the different form of the body combined with the apparent inaccessibility, since they never appear in the markets, have protected the identity of this giant's young from the fisherman and public until the present time.

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THE PACIFIC EDIBLE CRAB AND ITS NEAR RELATIVES.*

By FRANK WALTER WEYMOUTH, Stanford University, California.

The edible crab of the Pacific Coast markets is familiar to most people but there are a number of other species less well known and somewhat likely to be confused with it. It is the purpose of this note to prevent this confusion. Since there are between fifty and a hundred distinct species, many of small size, on the coast, it is a mistake to imagine that any small crab is the young of the edible form. Many are so widely different that even a hasty examination will show the most uncritical that they are not market crabs, but there are four closely related species which are particularly liable to confusion and which will be considered in more detail.

The edible crab, *Cancer magister,* belongs to a genus which includes in the Atlantic two of the edible crabs of the eastern United States and Canada and the edible crab of Europe. On the Pacific coast there are

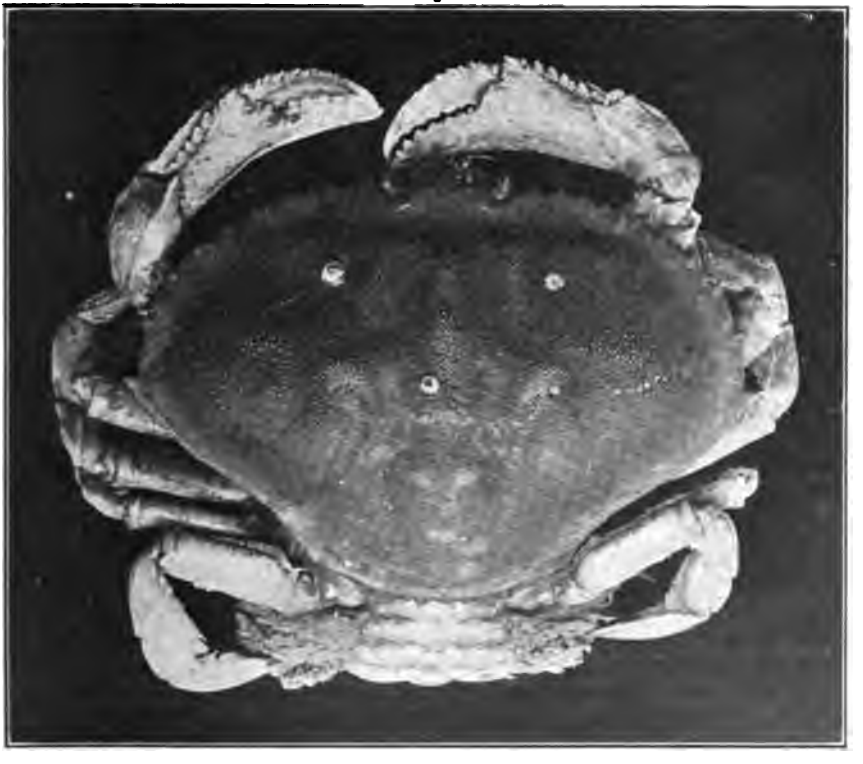

FIG. 3. Edible crab. *Cancer magister.* Egg-bearing female, one-half natural size. San Francisco, California.

nine species of *Cancer,* but most of these are so small or so rare that they need not be considered. Three or four species are large enough to be used for food but only *Cancer magister* is both large enough and abundant enough to be of commercial importance and is the only

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 14.

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species recognized by the protective laws. The following descriptions and figures should serve to distinguish these larger and more closely related forms.

CANCER MAGISTER. EDIBLE CRAB.

Size large, sometimes reaching nine inches in breadth across the back from point to point. The general color of the living animal is not reddish and there is no red on the lower side; the teeth on the front and side of the shell are low and saw-like, those between the eyes are not all of the same size, and the two nearest the eyes are larger and more widely separated from the middle three; the "hand" of the large pincer has conspicuous rows of spines; the "fingers" are not black-tipped; and the last joints or "claws" of the walking legs are slightly curved, broad, thin and fringed with hairs forming swimming paddles. Seldom found between tides but usually in from one to twelve fathoms on sandy bottoms.

FIG. 4. Slender crab. *Cancer gracilis*. Male, natural size. Monterey Bay, California. The last joint of the last walking leg on the right is missing.

CANCER GRACILIS.

Size small, seldom exceeding three inches. General color of the living animal and teeth on margin of shell much as in *C. magister;* the "hand" is rather less spiny and the "fingers" are also not black-tipped; the last joints of the walking legs are long, curved, slender and hairless, thus differing from all the other species here described. In California not found between tides but in deeper water, usually on sandy bottom.

CANCER ANTENNARIUS. ROCK CRAB.

Size moderate, seldom exceeding five inches. General color of living animal reddish, lower side with small red spots not found in other species; teeth on front and sides of shell heavy, projecting and curved forward, those between the eyes much as in *C. magister;* the "hand" is large and entirely smooth, the "fingers" are conspicuously black-

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FIG. 5. Rock crab. *Cancer antennarius*. Male, two-thirds natural size. Monterey Bay, California.

tipped; the last joints of the walking legs are stout, nearly straight and hairy. Commonly found among rocks between tides, though also in deeper water.

FIG. 6. Rock crab. *Cancer productus*. Male, one-half natural size. Monterey Bay, California.

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CANCER PRODUCTUS. ROCK CRAB.

Size moderate to large, reaching seven inches. General color in life as in *C. antennarius* though there are no small red spots on the lower side; teeth on front and sides of shell similar to those of *C. antennarius,* those between the eyes of about equal size and projecting forward in front of the eyes thus differing from all the other species here described; the "hand" is roughened but without distinct spines; the "fingers" are black-tipped; and the last joints of the walking legs are straight and hairy but not flattened. Found usually between tides among the rocks though sometimes in deeper water.

THE PROPOSED INVESTIGATION OF THE SARDINE.*

By WILL F. THOMPSON.

The marvelous development of the sardine fishery in California warrants close attention to it and its prospects of permanency. The sardine has indeed become the most important species among the many utilized in our great fisheries. In 1914 few were canned, but each year has seen steady increase in number of canneries and in the total packed. It is well nigh impossible that this giant industry which has grown up over night should continue to grow at the rate it has in the past, but an increase is surely still to be expected. It is a growth unparalleled within the countries bordering the Pacific, and its effects are consequently well worthy of attention. This attention is especially due from the state, which has legal jurisdiction over the fisheries and is responsible for their continuity. But such observation, it should be carefully noted, is as much for the prevention of hasty and harmful legislation as for conservation.

Moreover, many of the unsolved questions of fishery science and many of the practical questions concerning the course of the annual "runs" of fish may expect at least partial answers from an energetic investigation of the life history, as has been previously pointed out by the writer in Fish Bulletin No. 2 and in CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME, Vol. 5, No. 2. The trend of the program of investigation, practical as it is, is therefore aimed at a solution of "purely scientific" questions as well as more "practical" and immediate ones.

In order that this program may be formally on record and that it may be open to discussion by anyone, it is hereby published in the form of the principal questions which it seeks to answer. Suggestions and criticism are earnestly desired from every possible source.

The law requiring this work is as follows:

It shall be the duty of the fish and game commission to gather data of the commercial fisheries and to prepare the data so as to show the real abundance of the most important commercial fishes; to make such investigations of the biology of the various species of fish as will guide in the collection and preparation of the statistical information necessary to determine evidence of overfishing; to make such investigations as will bring to light as soon as possible those evidences of overfishing as are shown by changes in the age groups of any variety of fish; to determine what measures may be advisable to conserve any fishery, or to enlarge and assist any fishery where that may be done without danger to the supply.

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 15.

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1. Will depletion occur?

To answer this we must have:

A. The catches by each boat, their character and the artificial limits affecting them, in order that comparisons may be made of the catches of the various years, and of the seasons.

B. The type of each boat and the apparatus used.

C. The method of the fishery, and the effects of such factors as the moonlight.

D. A knowledge of any decided changes in method or location of the fishery.

E. An answer to the following question, No. 2.

2. Are there great natural fluctuations in abundance, or quality, other than those of depletion?

An answer requires:

A. The same data as are required to answer No. 1.

B. The composition of the catches each year according to size or age, in order that we may discover whether a good catch is due to an exceptional spawning season. This implies a knowledge of the effect of selective fishing on the catch.

C. The variation in the composition of the catches during various parts of the year, so that we may be sure we are comparing the years correctly.

D. The spawning season, and its relation to natural changes in quality or local abundance.

3. Is it possible to foretell fluctuations?

This can not be done unless we know:

A. What changes are invariable each year, such as the spawning migration.

B. What the success of each spawning season is, as evidenced by the abundance of the youngest fish. It may be necessary to judge of this by comparing the abundance of the youngest in separate classes, such as medium or large fish.

C. What the age and rate of growth is, so that we may know how long it takes for the fish of a given spawning season to become fit for use.

4. Do sardines migrate from one region to another?

This question is of importance because of the possible difference in food value of sardines which live in the various regions; because of the possible depletion of one region independently of another; or because of the possible dependence of the supply in one region upon the sardines in another.

The data required are:

A. Extensive measurements to discover any physical differences between schools from different regions. For example, a difference in size of the head would indicate that the schools did not mingle but were independent.

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B. The early life history, especially that of the eggs and their drift with the currents.

C. The location of the various age classes of fish at the different periods of the year, so that seasonal migrations may be discerned, and the simultaneous character of fluctuations in different regions may be discovered, if existent.

D. The accessibility of the schools under various physical conditions, to explain any absence which might erroneously be assigned to migration.

5. If depletion should occur, what measures for protection should be adopted?

For the proper solution of this problem, an intimate knowledge of the life-history is necessary, but the following will constitute the most practicable basis for action:

A. Are the sardines in different regions independent? May one region be depleted and another not?

B. When are the sardines worth least as food? When are they most valuable to the species as spawners?

C. Upon what classes of fish does the strain of the fishery fall most heavily?

In answering these questions it is obvious that extensive data must be gathered. We are undertaking the collection of careful statistics regarding the boats and their catches, and are observing the sardines closely throughout their season. This implies the obtaining daily of material from the canneries and fishermen. We trust that this privilege will be cheerfully granted, and the agents of the Commission have been instructed to use the utmost care that no unnecessary inconvenience is put upon any person or firm in the pursuit of duties required of them by law.

THE LIFE HISTORY OF THE SAGE HEN.

By E. H. Oberr.

The sage hen is the largest upland game bird found in California. Consequently it is not easily confused with any other bird. As a prominent zoologist has said, "It is not particularly necessary to describe the sage hen any more than the elephant, as its size and its extremely long and pointed tail proclaim its identity anywhere."

The high open plateaus from six thousand to twelve thousand feet in elevation constitute its home, the birds seldom frequenting country where timber grows to any extent. As a rule, sage hens do not migrate from their accustomed locality, no matter what the weather conditions may be. When snow covers the ground they resort to high brush which protrudes through the snow, where it is possible for the birds in severe blizzards to dig or scratch down to the ground at the base of a bush. At such times when the snow is deep and frozen, sage hens fall easy prey to the marauding coyote, lynx, skunk, and various other varmints that follow their scent each winter.

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During clear spells throughout the winter sage hens keep on the go searching for food that has been blown over the snow. Strange as it may seem, at such times birds are the very wildest of any time during the year.

Early spring usually finds the birds poor in flesh and shabby in plumage. The females select the sunny slopes and hillsides, near springs or small running streams, for nesting grounds. A feeble attempt at building a nest is made by scratching out a shallow hole in the ground at the foot of a sage bush, or other shrub. Here the eggs are laid, the usual number being about ten. In color, they are greenish and speckled with brown; in size they are about that of a small domestic hen's egg. Old male birds never frequent the locality in which their mates nest and only return when the young birds have reached maturity. The percentage of their brood brought forth each year by the nesting hens is exceptionally good considering the immense disadvantage the birds are subjected to during their nesting period. By this I mean varmints of all sorts, early spring floods, trampling by sheep, cattle, and horses, and last but not least, the man with the gun, who formerly was always to be found following the snow back as it receded from the lower hills. Many young birds fall early prey to varmints, as the parent bird has feeble means of protecting herself or her young.

While the sage hen is nesting, and for a short while after the female comes off with her brood, the food consists mainly of the tender buds and leaves of blue brush, and wild cherry brush. After the young birds have learned to fly, they descend along the larger streams, also frequenting meadowlands, where small, tender weeds and young grasses are added to their diet. At such places the young birds will gather in large flocks and when approached by man, will stand and crane their necks and make a very faint attempt at cackling. When closely approached they usually run rather than fly.

By the last of August or early September the young birds are usually joined by the old male birds, which come off the higher slopes and ridges. These old male birds stay very high up all summer long, quenching their thirst from the snow banks.

The cock sage hen's performances in early spring are most interesting. He struts very much like a turkey, his long pointed pheasant-shaped tail spread out like a fan. The wings trail beside him, the breast nearly rubbing the ground. In some instances the breast does rub the ground, and the feathers are worn off. During the courting antics the male inflates his saffron-colored air-sacs on both sides of the neck and makes a guttural sound, stepping much as does our turkey gobbler. All of this performance is apparently directed to attract the attention of the females, which gather together old and young, big and little.

The sage hen is by nature terrestrial; flying at best is a laborious performance and only resorted to as a last expedient. With much effort a bird lifts itself, but when once in the air it flies rapidly, and I have seen them sail for two miles or more before alighting. Sage hens are not suspicious birds. They generally walk or run away from an intruder, sometimes hiding among the sage bushes, where, owing to their protective coloration, it is quite difficult to detect them without a bird dog.

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In October, sage hens congregate in large flocks, and feed almost entirely on sage and soon lose their gamey flavor brought with them from their higher homes.

The principal diet of the sage hen throughout the year consists mainly and almost exclusively of sage and a great portion of bitter brush, along, however, with a certain amount of flower buds and bulbs. It is about the only bird known that can eat with relish, and benefit, the leaves of our common sage brush, and subsist upon that food indefinitely. In fact, there are various kinds of herbage that sage hens are known to pick up during certain seasons of the year aside from sage, but such only in very small quantities.

The sage hen is one of our grandest game birds, a bird that should be carefully guarded to prevent extinction. The young birds are often alert and rise from the ground at some little distance at the approach of man on foot or horseback. If the hunter marks them carefully when they alight he has no trouble in walking within easy shooting distance. When flushed, the sage hen almost always flies behind the hunter making a turn in the air just after leaving the ground, thus making it a large and easy target. Like most of our ground birds it does not fly from cover at the crack of a gun.

The writer recalls about twenty years ago when thousands of sage hens made their homes in Long Valley, which is in the south end of Mono County and just northwest of Inyo County's north boundary line. At that time it was considered mere play for the cowboys to dash with their saddle horses into a large flock of sage hens, one thousand or more, and strike down two or three with their quirts or cow whips before the birds could possibly get out of the way. Conditions now, however, have changed. Of the thousands which a few years ago inhabited our plateaus, now only a few scattered hundreds remain. Indeed, the situation regarding the future welfare of the sage hen throughout California was most alarming until the stringent laws of recent years became effective.

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NOTES ON THE LIFE HISTORY OF THE BLACK-TAILED DEER.

By J. D. Coffman.

Though the black-tailed deer, *Odocoileus columbianus,* is well known and widely hunted, yet its habits and life history are but imperfectly known. We therefore offer the following notes, which have been compiled in connection with a report sent the California Fish and Game Commission by the Trinity National Forest, as a contribution to the life history of this notable game mammal.

With the heavy snows on the higher ranges, the deer descend to the lower elevations and during the winter feed on such bunch grass and browse as is available, utilizing moss, mistletoe and branches broken off by snow where the more palatable forms of forage are unavailable. During this period of the year the deer travel in bands. As the snows melt away they follow the snow line back to the higher ranges and during May and June scatter out through the mountains. During the spring they feed on open glades, but after the middle of June most of the deer ascend to the higher slopes, feeding on tender shoots and grasses during the early summer, and almost exclusively on browse, such as hazel, oak and various species of Ceanothus (blue brush, buck brush, wedge-leaf (chaparral), and white-thorn), from early August until the acorns are ripe in the fall. Then mast forms a large proportion of their food within the oak country. In the fall, after the rains have come, deer will also dig for roots and ground shoots, and feed extensively on the edible fruiting bodies of certain species of fungi that develop abundantly in the timber at that season. During the summer season deer use natural mineral springs and salt licks extensively.

It is noted after extremely cold and snowy winters that a few deer appear to die from the effects of the storms, deer so dying being found late in the winter or in the early spring after they have commenced feeding on the open grass lands. For this region (the Trinity National Forest) the rutting season begins early in November and ends about the middle of December, depending a great real upon the altitude where the deer happen to be feeding, the mating beginning several weeks earlier in the lower elevations than at the higher altitudes. On the lower lands within the watershed of the north fork of the Eel River, in the southwestern portion of the Forest, the rutting season begins about one month earlier than the general season stated above.

It is a common belief among the old residents that the first heavy storm during November has considerable influence upon the rutting season. This may, however, simply be due to the fact that these storms appear usually about the time the deer start to run, and the impression may also be due to some extent to the fact that the tracks are so much plainer in the snow that it creates the impression the deer have been running more, and it is probably true that the deer would move around more after the advent of snow even aside from the rutting season.

During the running season the bucks frequently fight each other, and many of the old ones have torn ears from their horned encounters with their rivals. The bucks at this time become thin, as a rule, and

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the meat is usually unfit for food even though the buck may appear to be in good condition.

The young are born during the months of May, June and July. The does first breed, therefore, when they are approximately eighteen months old. In their first breeding season they bear but one fawn as a rule, and very often but one during the second season, but thereafter bear two fawns, and in rare instances three. Until such time as the fawns are able to follow the does, they are hidden away in a brush patch or sheltered nook, while the mother feeds near by, returning to them at intervals during the day. After the fawns are able to travel, their beds or hiding places are changed frequently until such time as the fawns are able to follow throughout the day. During the first six weeks the fawns are said to have no scent, the scent glands probably not having developed as yet. This undoubtedly protects them materially from their predatory enemies. Even with this protection, probably not as many as fifty per cent of the fawns reach maturity. Most of the fawns have lost their spots by September and are weaned during the fall. The fawns usually remain with their mother until they are yearlings or until the next fawns are born, and frequently stay with her even for several months longer.

The bucks shed their antlers during January and February. During March they have only a skin covering over the old scar, and the new antlers begin to grow in April. During the months of June, July and August the antlers are in the velvet and are tender, so that the bucks remain in the open timber or around rocky places, and do not frequent brush areas. During the latter part of August and the first half of September they rub the velvet from their horns. About November 1 the bucks' necks begin to swell, and they do considerable traveling around just previous to the rutting season.

The summer coat of all the deer is of a reddish color, and the winter coat is of a bluish-grey color and is heavier than the summer coat, the hair being longer. The winter coat is shed during May, and the summer red is worn until September, when the winter coat begins to come in again. Occasionally a white or albino deer is seen or killed, and also black deer, both being rare varieties of the common local species.

During the latter part of August and the month of September most of the deer range at high elevations and lie in heavy brush thickets as a protection against flies, and perhaps to escape hunters and their other enemies as well.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

A publication devoted to the conservation of wild life and published quarterly by the California State Fish and Game Commission.

Sent free to citizens of the State of California. Offered in exchange for ornithological, mammalogical and similar periodicals.

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

January 15, 1920.

"Game laws are not enacted for the purpose of depriving any citizen of his rights, but rather to prevent such deprivation by assuring a supply."

FIVE YEARS OLD.

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME is now five years old. If you are not aware that it has grown in size, compare the first issue with the recent trout number. But physical growth is not everything. We trust that there has been a growth in the so-called "general tone" of the magazine as well. It is to be hoped that each issue acts more and more as an evangel of conservation and that the material presented increasingly convinces the reader that California's wild life resources are worth something and consequently need to be conserved.

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME was started as a means of moulding public opinion, for it was believed that: "The effectiveness of game protection is governed by the interest of the people and the spirit of those who hunt and fish." To judge of its effectiveness in this regard is perhaps difficult, but it is certain that there has been a growth of public opinion favoring the protection of wild life resources, and we believe the magazine has helped in this development.

You will find in the volumes completed noteworthy facts concerning the status of fish and game in California and the means being taken to conserve it. The magazine has acted primarily in an educational and publicity capacity, but it also constitutes a record of activities and accomplishments which are of historical value.

In looking toward future numbers what more can we do for the cause? Our magazine has not entered the field of the sporting magazine. Articles seldom appear in story form and the usual hunter's experiences recounted in characteristic fashion are omitted, and for that reason it may not be so readable. The adherence to scientific fact, however, should carry added importance to the reading matter, even if popular and light reading is lacking. It should be remembered that the function of our magazine is quite different from that of a typical sporting magazine.

If CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME is not living up to its motto "Conservation through Education," let us immediately receive a set of protests from our readers.

WE MUST CAPITALIZE OUR RESOURCES.

More and more we are awakening to the fact that fish and game propagation and protection is a business proposition. One of the most convincing arguments for the conservation of wild life resources is to be found in the attractiveness of fish and game to sportsmen outside of the state, who benefit the state by spending large sums of money in obtaining their sport. It is up to us to capitalize all of our resources—climate, mountain scenery, forests, fish and game. When capitalized it does pay dividends. These dividends, however, continue only when fish and game are properly conserved. Had a sufficient breeding stock of that most valuable of all the fur-bearers, the sea otter, been maintained the state would now be obtaining a return from a splendid industry. The practical extinction of this valuable fur-bearing animal precludes any return. With a little foresight California can so conserve its supply of wild life that it will form a permanent and paying attraction to the pleasure seeker. With a little indifference California can become bankrupt so far as invested capital in natural resources is concerned, with no hope of solvency.

EDUCATION VERSUS LAW ENFORCEMENTS.

Since the beginning of the educational campaign in this state to establish a public sentiment favorable to fish and game conservation, we have continually pointed out

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the advantages of the educational method over that of force. The necessity of a patrol force is largely due to the lack of proper public sentiment. The most fundamental way of cutting down the number of violations is to let people know something about the wild life of the state and its needs.

State after state is coming to a realization of just these facts. New York is doing some splendid educational work, Michigan has been devoting a great deal of energy to an educational program, and now we note that Wisconsin has begun an extensive program of education and has been employing speakers to deliver lectures throughout the state. The results have been so much worth while that an enlargement of the program is planned. According to the Wisconsin Commission "it is the one thing that will save the wild life of the state and the work must be pushed vigorously. Until such time as the people become educated to the importance of a united public sentiment for conservation we must pursue the course of warrants, courts and fines and follow the old method of educating with the sledge hammer, teach through force instead of reason and the more rigid the laws and the more severe the fines, the more potent the effect."

FUR RESOURCES ENDANGERED.

That it is high time each state turned its attention to giving judicious protection to fur-bearing mammals is evidenced by the following statements given in a recent Farmers' Bulletin (No. 1079) of the United States Department of Agriculture:

"Recently the supply of peltries has been decreasing at an alarming rate. Raw-fur buyers representing all parts of the country place the decrease at from 25 to 50 per cent during the last ten years. There are no longer any virgin trapping grounds. Even in Alaska the two most important fur-bearing animals, the beaver and the marten, have become so nearly exterminated that they are now being protected by a close period.

"Laws protecting fur-bearing animals are designed to keep a steady flow of peltries coming to market year after year, thereby bringing trappers a reliable income and giving regular employment to thousands of people engaged in dressing skins, manufacturing garments, and distributing them through the various avenues of trade.

"A general protest comes from raw-fur buyers against traffic in unprime skins. The losses caused by killing fur animals when their pelts are not prime are enormous. An educational campaign is greatly needed to prevent this waste and to perpetuate our fur-producing resources."

NEW GAME FISH IMPORTED.

On November 24, 1919, the California Fish and Game Commission received a shipment of ayu eggs on the steamer Shinyo Maru from Japan which were sent through the courtesy of Professor C. Ishikawa, College of Agriculture at Komaha, near Tokyo (Tokyo Imperial University), Japan.

The eggs were deposited on cocoanut fiber and placed in four jars holding about a gallon to a gallon and a half of water each. There were also three tubs about thirty inches in diameter which contained approximately three to four pieces of fiber each. The ayu eggs are very small, not much larger than the eggs of the shad. As soon as the consignment arrived in San Francisco the eggs were hurried to the Brookdale Hatchery and were placed in the hatching troughs at that place, where they are at the present time. Upon arrival the eggs were apparently all dead but since this Commission is very anxious to give this experiment a thorough test every precaution was taken in the handling and placing of the eggs in the hatchery troughs in case any life should develop.

The Commission feels greatly indebted to Dr. David Starr Jordan of Stanford University, who originally corresponded with the Imperial University at Komaha near Tokyo, and it was through his efforts that the shipment was received. The ayu is a sporting fish belonging to the trout family and it will make an excellent fish for the anglers. It reaches a length of 8½ inches; none are to be found in this country.—E. D.

CALIFORNIA FURNISHES STRIPED BASS TO HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

On Saturday, November 15, 1919, the California Fish and Game Commission shipped about 2500 striped bass from 2½ to 5 inches in length to the Fish and Game Commission of the Territory of Hawaii to be planted in streams in the vicinity of Honolulu. Captain H. E. Foster of the patrol launch "Quinnat" had charge of the seining crew which col-

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lected the fish on the Benicia flats by means of a beach seine 270 feet long, 12 feet deep, the bag of which was ½ inch mesh and the wings 1½ inch mesh. It took about three days to make the catch.

The fish were held in live cars until sufficient were collected to make the shipment and then were put aboard the Matson Navigation Company's steamer "Maui." Here the fish were distributed in six large salmon tierces that had been arranged on the main upper deck in front of the office of the chief engineer, Alexander Ryan, who took personal charge of the fish on the trip. Each tierce had salt water circulation by means of a small pipe which had been connected up with a pump in the engine room.

In 1874 California received the first shipment of 150 small striped bass from New Jersey. These fish were distributed in the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. In 1882 a second shipment of 400 striped bass were sent to this state by the United States Bureau of Fisheries. California has an annual catch of about 1,500,000 pounds of striped bass, with a commercial value of about $150,000. Since so fine a result was obtained with a small number of fish in California the large plant of 2500 fish in the vicinity of Honolulu should assure the rapid establishment of this splendid fish in the Hawaiian Islands.—E. D.

STREAMS NOW STOCKED WITH GOLDEN TROUT.

The angler who visits the Southern Sierras during the next few years will be elated to discover the streams teeming with Golden Trout. Heretofore the "most beautiful trout in the whole world" was limited to a few high mountain streams in the vicinity of Mount Whitney, and the angler was forced to take a long hard pack trip in order to secure this trout. Now, owing to the operations of the California Fish and Game Commission the golden trout is to be found in mountain streams from the southern boundary of the Yosemite National Park to the tributaries of the Kern River.

In the beginning Golden Trout were caught with hook and line and then transported by mule pack train to other streams which were to be stocked. Now the fish are spawned and the eggs hatched at the Mount Whitney hatchery and then distribution is made. During September and October of this year large plants of golden trout have been made in the headwaters of the Kings River, thus extending the distribution of this fish over fifty miles to the northward. Former plants had already extended the distribution more than one hundred miles to the northward. Every effort is being made to extend the range of this notable trout, care being taken, however, to keep a pure strain by planting in barren waters. As results of former plantings have been very successful, it is expected that golden trout will be available to everyone within a few years, and that the lakes and streams of the southern Sierras will be the Mecca of anglers the world over.

IN MEMORIAM.

OSCAR H. REICHLING.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Oscar H. Reichling, Cashier of the Fish and Game Commission, which occurred on Sunday, November 9, 1919.

Mr. Reichling was appointed a special deputy on October 24, 1903, while living at Jackson, Amador County. Impressed with the frequent flagrant violations of the laws protecting wild life, particularly by the foreign element, Reichling saw that unless the laws were enforced that it would be only a short time until there would be no game or fish. As a citizen, he did what he could to stop the violations, but found that he was handicapped by not having authority to make arrests. He corresponded with Chas. A. Vogelsang, who was then Chief Deputy, and through him received an appointment. While acting as a special deputy, he made an excellent record and when, with the advent of the Hunting License Law, it was possible to employ more regular deputies, because of his record, he was given a permanent appointment, March 24, 1908, with headquarters in San Francisco.

As Mr. Reichling was exceedingly painstaking and accurate and had early training as a bookkeeper, it was found that he could best be used in this capacity and he was detailed to assist the late Judge E. G. Heacock, then in charge of the license and bookkeeping department. Upon the death of Judge Heacock, in 1909, he was again promoted. Later he was given the very responsible position of cashier, the place he held at the time of his death.

Mr. Reichling is survived by his wife and mother and also by three brothers and sisters. He was a member of Excelsior Parlor, N. S. G. W., and is mourned by a host of friends.

—J. S. H.

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SAVE KLAMATH LAKE BIRD RESERVATION.

California today is one of the greatest out-of-doors states in the union. Its mountains, lakes, forests, rivers and wealth of bird life attract people from every state in the country. Every man, woman and child in this state owes Theodore Roosevelt something for his far-sightedness and for his efforts in saving the wild birds of the state. They not only owe something in the way of a cash contribution to a memorial for his far-sightedness, but they owe some effort toward saving these greatest living and useful monuments which he preferred to any other kind.

Although Lower Klamath Lake is a federal wild bird reservation by special proclamation and wild birds are carefully protected by both state and federal law, yet the vital defect in the whole situation is the present unfortunate condition which is bringing about the destruction of bird life on a vast scale and the annihilation of this great reservation by the drying up of the lake. The myriads of ducks, geese, wading birds and other wild fowl are at home in the wonderful marsh land, but they can not exist on the alkali flats of the desert.

Picture to yourself the condition a few years ago when Roosevelt created the Klamath Lake reservation. Here was a wide, open, shallow alkaline lake ten or twelve miles long. For miles and miles around the border was a vast tule marsh, white with the nesting multitudes. The beauty of Lower Klamath Lake was in its life, the flying birds that hovered over the wide, treeless area, the calling flocks that from time immemorial have held this as their own. Around the wide border of the lake a wild swamp grass grew, nurtured by sub-irrigation, and a great number of cattle were raised here.

FIG. 7. Lower Klamath Lake, a federal bird reservation, from the west shore of the lake. An abundant tule growth on the east side of the lake forms an especially fine breeding ground for waterfowl and the islands in the lake are used as breeding grounds by cormorants, pelicans and great blue herons. Photograph by H. C. Bryant, June 9, 1914. (Neg. 1269, Calif. Mus. Vert. Zool.)

Then came the land operators and wildcat schemers and advocated the drying up of the lake by cutting off its water supply from Klamath River. They said instead of a marshy waste we could have a great farming area. A dyke was built and a change has gradually taken place. Instead of the waters, we now have desert flats crusted with alkali. The meadows of wild grass owned by stockmen about the lake have reverted to the desert because of the lack of water. The great tule marsh, as dry as tinder, and the peat two or three feet below the surface, was set on fire last spring and is now a gigantic waste, flaming in some places and slow burning under the surface in others. The migratory flocks that have fed and nested here are flying about without homes and resting places.

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A. P. Davis, director of the reclamation service, has written Senator Chamberlain that a recent investigation of the marsh lands around Lower Klamath Lake has failed to disclose positive evidence of their value for agricultural purposes. According to his own words "very little conclusive evidence can be found as to the agricultural value of the lands around Lower Klamath Lake."

Here is the most useless piece of destruction of one of our greatest out-of-door resources, and nothing gained. The whole thing can be remedied if the reclamation service will open the dykes and let the water back into Lower Klamath Lake. Every citizen of the state should take this matter up with the reclamation service, our senators and representatives in Washington, or with the Secretary of Agriculture. If immediate action is secured Klamath Lake Reservation could be restored and would remain as a great living monument to Theodore Roosevelt.—W. L. FINLEY, *State Biologist*, Portland, Oregon.

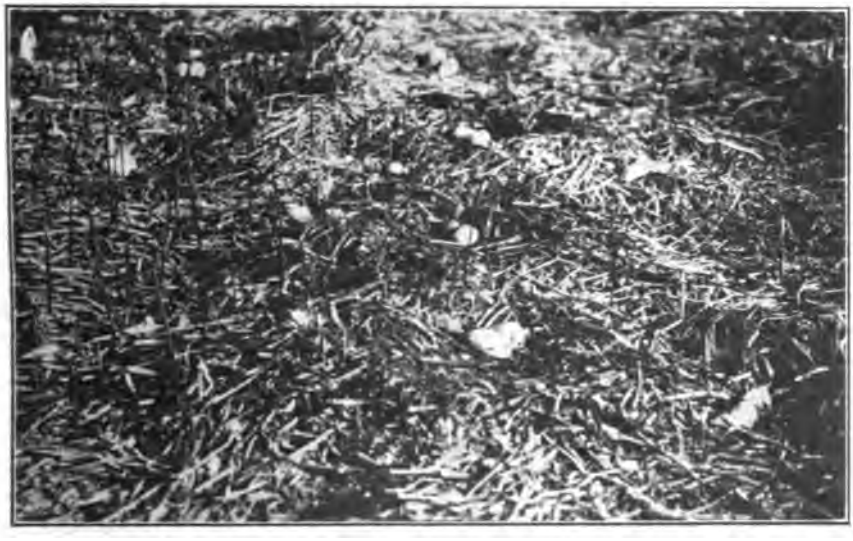

FIG. 8. Nests of pelicans and cormorants on Bird Island, Lower Klamath Lake. Photograph by H. C. Bryant, June 8, 1914. (Neg. 1276, Calif. Mus. Vert. Zool.).

THE HUNTER'S LAMENT.

"Of what earthly use is it to protect waterfowl from overshooting and then take away their nesting grounds, their feeding waters and the places where they rest on migrations? It is of the utmost importance that public waters be preserved, if we are to maintain duck shooting."

So says the American Game Protective Association with reference to the drainage of Big Rice Lake in Minnesota under the pretext of land for the farmer.

So say we all of us with reference to the Klamath Lake Bird Reservation and other wildcat schemes which threaten the extermination of our wild life resources.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FISHERIES FILMED.

In order to inform the people of the state as to the wonderful fisheries which have been developed in Southern California the past few years, the Fish and Game Commission has recently had a film made depicting the outstanding features of the tuna fishery. After spending many days aboard the launch "Albacore," of the Fish and Game Commission, the camera man secured a very fine series of pictures showing the methods of capturing the fish. Visits to the canneries helped to complete the film for here the whole canning process was photographed. In the film, therefore, one may view the entire process from the capture of the fish at sea to the finished canned product. Outstanding features of the film are a scene at Smug-

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gler's Cove showing the fishing fleet at anchor, secured after a rough and dangerous landing, and scenes showing a barge being loaded with tuna.

This new film forms a part of the free film service furnished by the Fish and Game Commission. Many splendid films showing wild birds and mammals in their own homes are available through the Fish and Game Commission's educational and publicity department.

SEVEN GRIZZLIES FORMERLY EXISTED IN CALIFORNIA.

Now that the grizzly bear is extinct in California careful studies are being made of the material at hand to find out how many varieties of grizzly bear actually existed in this state.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam has published a review of grizzlies and big brown bears of North America (U. S. Dept. Agric., North American Fauna, No. 41, Feb. 9, 1918) in which it is pointed out that seven varieties of grizzly bear were formerly found in this state. The California coast grizzly formerly ranged in humid coast regions from San Francisco Bay south to San Luis Obispo. The Tejon grizzly was found in the dry chaparral hills of interior coast ranges, between the San Joaquin Valley and Los Angeles. The Sacramento Valley grizzly was limited to the Sacramento (and perhaps San Joaquin) Valley and adjacent foothills. In extreme northern California, along the Klamath River, ranged the Klamath grizzly, while further south in Mendocino County was to be found the Mendocino grizzly. The largest one formerly occurred in the Santa Ana, Cuyamaca and Santa Rosa mountains of southern California. Still another variety roamed over the southern Sierra Nevada, this one being called the Henshaw grizzly. The Southern California grizzly was the largest of all the grizzlies, even larger than the great buffalo-killing grizzly found on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. It was of such a huge size that the weight of a male is estimated at 1400 pounds. The height at the shoulder from flat of foot of one specimen measured 4 feet. The sole of the largest foot, without claws, measured 12 inches in length and 8 in breadth. The length of an old female taken in Trabuco Canyon near Santa Ana measured 6 feet 3 inches.

Material collected by the United States Bureau of Biological Survey made possible this paper, which describes eighty-six different varieties of grizzly and brown bears, a large number of which are newly described varieties. Skins and skulls in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley were used in the studies made by Dr. Merriam.

WHEN ARE GREENHEADS MOST ABUNDANT?

A recent article by Aldo Leopold in the October number of *The Condor*, entitled "Differential Sex Migration of Mallards in New Mexico," brings up the mooted question as to whether female

FIG. 9. Canvasbacks on Lake Merritt, Oakland, the first game refuge established in California. Photograph by H. C. Bryant, December 27, 1918.

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CALIFORNIA'S GAME SANCTUARIES.

California is assuring a perpetual supply of game by setting aside areas where no hunting is allowed and where game is allowed to breed unmolested. The state is responsible for the creation of most of them, the federal government for others. Certain areas known as game refuges have been set aside by legislative enactment. Others known as state game preserves have been created by the Fish and Game Commission after the owner of the property has ceded all hunting privileges to the state for a period of not less than ten years. The federal government has set aside five bird reservations and protects all of the wild life within the national parks and national monuments. As a consequence game is now absolutely protected on nearly 3,000,000 acres within the State of California, an area roughly equivalent to three per cent of the total area of the state.

GAME REFUGES.

Name	County	Area, acres	Established
1A	Siskiyou	8,960	1917
1B	Modoc	57,000	1917
1C	Modoc	47,560	1917
1D	Trinity	64,000	1915
1E	Shasta	69,000	1917
1F	Lassen	47,580	1917
1G	Tehama	34,400	1917
1H	Plumas	31,000	1917
1I	El Dorado	64,000	1917
1J	Amador	57,600	1917
1K	Fresno	33,400	1917
1L	Tulare and Kern	37,600	1917
2A	Mendocino and Lake	37,000	1917
3A	Santa Cruz	3,400	1915
3B	San Benito and Monterey	13,760	1909
3C	Santa Barbara	39,680	1917
3D	Ventura	125,440	1917
4A	Los Angeles	600,740	1915
4B	Los Angeles		
4C	Orange	76,160	1913
4D	Riverside	69,120	1917
4E	San Diego	51,840	1917
Mount Tamalpais	Marin	28,000	1917
Lake Merritt	Alameda County (Oakland)		1869

STATE GAME PRESERVES.

No. 5	Monterey and San Benito	8,570.57	1916
No. 6	Santa Barbara	42,000	1918
No. 7	Santa Barbara		

FEDERAL BIRD RESERVATIONS.

Klamath Lake	Siskiyou	*22,400	1908
Clear Lake	Modoc	*1,600	1911
East Park	Colusa		1909
Farallon Islands	Pacific Ocean, near San Francisco		1909
Goat Island	San Francisco Bay	141	1916

*Approximate.

NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS.

Parks—			
Yosemite	Tuolumne and Mariposa	719,622	1890
Sequoia	Tulare	161,597	1890
General Grant	Fresno and Tulare	2,536	1890
Monuments—			
Lassen Volcanic	Shasta, Lassen, Plumas and Tehama	79,561	1916
Muir Woods	Marin	295	1908
*Pinnacles	San Benito	2,080	1908

*Included in State Game Refuge No. 3B.

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ducks migrate southward earlier than the males. According to the article female mallards are most abundant in the Rio Grande Valley near Albuquerque during October. By November the preponderance of females is diminished and by December first there is a preponderance of males. The proportion of males and females is about equal among the mallards wintering in the region. The article furthermore points out that a number of ducks banded at Great Salt Lake in Utah have been taken in New Mexico.

It may be that sportsmen in this state can gather evidence which will support or refute the statements made.

CALIFORNIA'S FIRST GAME REFUGE.

Splendid publicity has recently been given the first game refuge established in California through the publication of an article entitled "Wild Ducks as Winter Guests in a City Park," in the National Geographic Magazine for October, 1919. The article is by Joseph Dixon, of the University of California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, who made a careful study of the bird life on Lake Merritt, almost in the heart of the city of Oakland, and took many splendid photographs of the birds. Lake Merritt was set aside as a state game refuge in 1869, and therefore has the distinction of being the oldest refuge in the state. That the refuge is fulfilling its mission is evidenced by the great flocks of waterfowl which frequent its waters and the surrounding lawns each winter. Furthermore, the number of birds appearing is on the increase, showing that it is being utilized as a safety zone by more and more birds each year. This may in a measure be due to the systematic feeding carried on by the city of Oakland. No visit to Oakland in the winter is complete without an investigation of this bird sanctuary which so well testifies to the worthwhileness of setting aside areas where hunting is prohibited.

PROTECT THE WOOD DUCK.

Fortunately the duck most nearly exterminated in this state is one which can be readily recognized by a peculiar rolling flight quite unlike the flight of any other duck, and by a long, square tail that gives it a different outline and appearance. It possesses iridescent colors and the male has conspicuous markings. Furthermore, it practically never flocks with other ducks. There is no excuse, therefore, for killing this duck, which is protected by both state and federal laws looking towards its ultimate retention as a member of our fauna.

FISHES IN RELATION TO MOSQUITO CONTROL.

The United States Bureau of Fisheries in a recent publication (U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, Document No. 874) tells of investigations to determine the effectiveness of fishes in eradicating mosquitoes. Experiments were made with various species of small fish, and while it was found that some varieties, such as sun fish and gold fish, destroyed the mosquito when confined in small aquaria, they were of little value in large bodies of water where other food was obtainable.

However, by a series of experiments it has been found that the *Gambusia affinis* (Baird and Girard), or top minnow, can be made of practical value in the control of the mosquito pest. Investigations showed that this fish is especially suitable for antimosquito work because it seeks its food at the surface, where the mosquito and its larvæ are found; it is very prolific, giving birth to well-developed young and therefore requiring no special environment for egg culture; and it thrives in areas especially suitable for the support of mosquito larvæ. But experiment also showed that the top minnow must be protected from larger fish, bass especially, its chief protection being the presence of shallow water; and that there are some instances where the top minnow can not be used against the mosquito because the mosquito sometimes breeds in water so badly polluted that the top minnow can not live therein, as in a particular instance of water polluted by chemicals.

The results of the experiments indicate that the top minnow, when planted under proper conditions, completely eliminates mosquitoes, provided the waters are kept free from protective vegetation, such as slightly submerged leaves and stems, or growths which form a floating mass; and that even though protective vegetation exists, the top minnow greatly reduces the number of mosquitoes, the number of fish

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required for eradication depending largely, of course, upon the condition of the water with respect to protective vegetation.

BIRD PROTECTION IN ENGLAND.

A committee of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has recently investigated the present English laws and has suggested many changes looking toward the reconstruction of the Wild Bird Protection Acts. It is pointed out that there are numerous defects and obscurities in phraseology which have added largely to the complications which have arisen in the working of the six interdependent acts. The law has not been enforced in any general or habitual manner and has failed to protect the rare birds of the country.

The report gives first of all a historical review of bird protection laws in Great Britain, a digest of the present laws with the offenses and penalties, results of the present law, the proposed new law, and international law. Among the recommendations are the setting up of two schedules in the place of one, the general closed season to be from March 1 to September 1. Owners and occupiers are to have power to kill or take birds on their land during the closed season, with the exception of the birds listed in the schedules. Listed among the game birds on schedule A with an open season each year are such birds as the skua, black-throated diver, night jar, peregrine falcon, wood lark, woodpecker and wryneck. On the other hand, among the birds on schedule B which are given total protection are such birds as the avocet, Kentish plover, golden eagle, osprey, spoonbill and most of the owls.

The committee further recommends increased educational work, stating: "In order to protect birds both worker and child must know a little about them. Information regarding their characteristics and habits must be circulated. Bird and arbor schemes or their equivalent must bring light and air into the whole elementary school system. We should be glad to see a Bird Day, devoted to lectures, become a regular feature of the program of every school in this country."

THE FISHING INDUSTRY IN CALIFORNIA.

California in 1915 ranked second among the Pacific Coast states in the number of persons engaged, in the value of its investment, and in the amount and value of its fishery products. There were 4,282 persons engaged in the shore fisheries, 551 in the vessel fisheries, 35 in vessels transporting, and 3,584 persons engaged on shore in canneries, etc., making a total of 8,452 persons connected with the fisheries, as compared with 5,530 in 1904. The increase can be traced mainly to the shore industries.

The total investment in the fisheries of the state amounted to $5,824,263, showing an increase of nearly 55 per cent since 1904. The items making up this total are 73 fishing vessels valued, with their outfit, at $354,375; 20 transporting vessels with a value, including their outfit, of $72,000; 1,429 gasoline boats valued at $1,351,110; 1,169 other boats valued at $104,816; apparatus, in the shore and vessel fisheries, valued at $606,944; shore and accessory property with a value of $2,731,390 and working cash capital amounting to $448,800.

The products of the fisheries of California in 1915 aggregated 93,338,703 pounds, with a value to the fishermen of $2,506,702. This is an increase of about 44 per cent in quantity, but a decrease of about three-fifths of 1 per cent in value as compared with 1904. Among the items in the products of special importance may be mentioned 7,303,033 pounds of chinook salmon, valued at $340,949; 21,024,190 pounds of albacore, or tuna, valued at $316,103; 6,923,563 pounds of flounders, valued at $209,766; 375,774 pounds or 53,682 bushels, of eastern oysters, valued at $165,573; 4,952,692 pounds of salted cod, valued at $161,695; 1,784,488 pounds of striped bass, valued at $146,928; 4,344,254 pounds of rockfishes, valued at $146,216; 892,392 pounds of spiny lobsters, valued at $130,119; 1,414,155 pounds of crabs, valued at $124,870, and 5,761,929 pounds of sole, valued at $108,252.—*Bureau of Fisheries, Document No. 875.*

A CALIFORNIA FOX FARM.

Messrs. Lewis and Kierman, of Nevada, have started a fox farm near Pomin's, on the shores of Lake Tahoe. Six of the best silver black foxes obtainable have been purchased from Prince Edward Isle, at a cost of over $9,000. Four large fox pens

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of reinforced heavy poultry wire have been built, each equipped with a strong house for shelter and with runways to the ground. The accompanying picture (Fig. 10) shows the favorite male fox, a little over two years of age, which produced fourteen pups on his second breeding. This fox cost $2,100 and his fur is

FIG. 10. Silver gray fox. A valuable animal imported from Prince Edward Island for use at a newly established fur farm at Lake Tahoe. Photograph by J. Sanders.

exceptionally fine. Messrs. Lewis and Kierman expect to raise furs for the market, and it is rumored that other parties from Nevada intend starting a fox farm in the spring, also to be located in the Tahoe region.—J. H. SANDERS.

HOW MANY SHOOTERS IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY?

Prior to the war it was estimated that we had at least five million sportsmen in the United States. Men in a position to know claim that this year the total will be increased at least one million and possibly more. Many of the boys who before their experience in the army had never fired a gun, will not be satisfied now without their share of the sport.—*Illinois Sportsman*, Nov. 13, 1919, p. 3.

OWNERSHIP OF WILD LIFE.

"Wild life is the property of all the people," says the *Conservationist*. No one attempts to deny this, and least of all the game violator. From his point of view it is not only the property of all the people, but is more particularly the property of him who can get it. The more remote the locality where the law is violated, the more deeply rooted is the idea that the game is there to be taken, regardless of law, and without much feeling of moral obliquity. The violator has a strange feeling that some sort of justification is on his side, though the law may be on the other. The point of view is that of early colonial times, before the state had reason to assert its ownership—when, indeed, game was the property of any one who could shoot straight enough. It is the point of view of an extreme individualist.

Game is still the property of everyone. But, whereas originally the people placed no restrictions upon the use of that property, they have now thrown about it safeguards that are vital for its continued existence. Every citizen has a vested interest in every individual bird, animal and fish, and is defrauded, if the game is taken in any way contrary to the established rules. The point of view of the man who respects the law, and insists upon respect for it in others, is that of collective ownership. His individual right to take game is dependent upon consent to do so from others.

The feeling of collective ownership is still only partly developed. The tendency to wink at violations still decreases as the sense of common ownership of wild life is strengthened.—*The Sportsmen's Review*, Nov. 15, 1919.

THE WARDEN OF GAME.

"The game protectors are the people's appointed representatives in protecting what is the people's own property. Their task is a hard one, but they are doing it well. From year to year, the force is constantly developing in efficiency and effectiveness, and its members are responsible for the conservation of natural resources of untold value. They perform work of the highest public importance and their efforts are deserving of the people's unqualified support and commendation."—*The Conservationist*, May, 1919.

MUSKRAT FARM ESTABLISHED IN OHIO.

The price of furs has continued to rise until the lowly muskrat, which our fathers sold for 10 cents a pelt, now brings about

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$1.50. It is not surprising, therefore, that an enterprising man in Port Clinton, Ohio, has purchased 160 acres of marsh land along the river which he expects to turn into a muskrat fur farm. The fact that the bodies of the animals will bring about 25 cents increases the possibility that the project will be a success.

CANADA URGES PROTECTION OF GAME.

One of our two species of swans, a curlew and a crane, are in the gravest danger of extermination now and other species will follow unless everyone helps to keep our promise to protect these migratory birds. Man has exterminated species of birds; but not in all time can he replace a species. A species evolved through millions of years, with its marvelous adaptations to meet its needs, its wonderful beauty or power of flight, can be exterminated by man and disappear from this earth utterly and forever or it can be protected and live on, reproduce its kind, and be a delight and a source of knowledge to man, who may in some distant, wonderful time unravel some of the mystery of its origin which points back to the dawn of life, and to the Creator of all. —*Dept. of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada.*

NEED FOR DOE PROTECTION OBVIOUS.

A pitiful sight that ought to carry an eloquent message to every sportsman who has killed or who may be tempted to kill a doe, was met with by two hunters on October 4, 1919, in Bear River Canyon, about eight miles above Colfax, Placer County. The sportsmen came upon a doe which had the appearance of having been dead two, or perhaps three days, judging from the condition of the carcass and by the hoof tracks of the animal that had been made previous to a light rain that had fallen the day before. The deer had evidently traveled some distance, after having received a bullet in the lower bowels, before she fell.

The lingering death, due to poor marksmanship, in itself appeals to one's sympathy, aside from the fact that the law had been violated; but that is the smaller part of the real tragedy of that lone mountain wood. The doe was a mother, and surrounding her remains were the tiny tracks of her fawn. The doe's bag

FIG. 11. A reason for the protection of does. Doe, mother of a fawn, killed by law violator. Photograph by E. M. Muse.

still contained milk, and the udders were pink, as though the fawn had nursed, or attempted to do so, up to or after the mother had died.

What became of the little fawn? Like many others that have been orphaned under similar conditions, it perhaps remained beside its unresponsive mother until it fell an easy prey to coyotes; for, not far away from the dead doe, on the dry sand bar at the edge of the river, were the unmistakable stubby-toed dog-like tracks of a large coyote.

It is to be hoped that such instances as this will serve to carry a story home to that brand of *imitation* sportsmen who shoot without care or conscience.—EDWARD M. MUSE, Sacramento, California.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Several San Pedro canneries are paying $155 cash per ton for albacore. Five years ago this variety of fish sold at $40 a ton. In 1918 it was $60 to $90 a ton. Now the fisherman receives $155 per ton. Previous to 1910 albacore could not be given away and tons upon tons were carried to sea to feed the sharks.

Owing to the federal law prohibiting the sale of waterfowl and owing to the aggressive enforcement of the federal migratory bird law, very few illegal shipments of ducks have entered San Francisco during the present open season.

Striped bass fishermen report splendid fishing in the San Francisco Bay region, but the take by commercial fishermen has been below normal.

The Red River Lumber Company recently pleaded guilty to a violation of the water pollution laws and paid a fine of $200. The company has taken proper means to prevent further sawdust pollution.

The Fish and Game Commission has ordered a new patrol boat for use in patroling San Francisco Bay and vicinity. The boat will be thirty-one-foot over all with seven-foot beam equipped with a twelve-horsepower engine, and will be seaworthy in every respect.

Signs that the sardine industry is growing are evident in the recent canning operations of F. E. Booth and Company, at Pittsburg. Sardines caught outside the heads at San Francisco are being canned at the Pittsburg cannery. Although subject to some delay in reaching the cannery, they are said to arrive in splendid condition.

The establishment of a fur farm at Lake Tahoe and the proposed establishment of another in the same vicinity forecasts the beginning of the fur farming industry in California.

During the months of October and November, 1919, Deputy John Burke and Special Deputy Herbert Leahy made 57 arrests in San Mateo County, the fines totaling in all $1,210; 38 of these arrests, with fines amounting to $810, were made by Deputy John Burke, and 19 arrests with fines amounting to $400 by Special Deputy Herbert Leahy.

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COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. Scofield, Editor.

MANY FISHING BOATS DESTROYED.

For the second time in recent years great damage has been done to the fishing fleet at Monterey because of the lack of proper shelter for the fishing fleet. On Thanksgiving Day, 1919, ninety-two power boats were washed ashore at Monterey. Nor does this include lighters, nets and other gear, and damage done to docks and wharves. The estimated loss to the fishermen alone will run close to $150,000. A further severe loss will be suffered by the canners, as sardines are plentiful at this time and there will be but a few boats to fish for them.

In England and other European countries the government improves small harbors purposely for the use of fishing smacks. It is apparent that our own government in making surveys and plans for the improvement of harbors should take into consideration the need for refuges for fishing fleets. A breakwater which would give proper shelter for the fishing fleet at Monterey is needed, and there are many small bays along our coast which should be improved and made into harbors for fishermen's boats.

FISHERMEN'S UNION AT FORT BRAGG.

During the spring of 1919 the Fishermen's Union at Fort Bragg established and operated their own plant for mild curing the salmon catch. Steep hillside property on the Noyo River was purchased and a 60 by 80-foot shed erected. It was necessary to grade about 800 feet of roadway on the steep hillside to connect the shed with the highway. The construction and grading work was done by the fishermen, most of the labor being donated. By agreement, Small & Urie canned the small salmon for the Union, the Union packing over half the total catch of nearly 3,000,000 pounds, so that

Fig. 12. Monterey fishing fleet piled on the shore after a severe storm on the day before Thanksgiving, 1919. Photograph by Heldrick.

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the season at Fort Bragg has been unusually successful compared with other coast points.

Encouraged by this season's success, the Union has completed plans for next year at Fort Bragg which include an addition to the Noyo River shed to accommodate a two-line cannery, ice plant and cold storage plant and the building of a mild curing house at Shelter Cove. The proposed cannery will not only handle the small salmon but also pack sardines, which are plentiful in the Fort Bragg and Shelter Cove region.

NEWPORT BAY FISHERIES BEING DEVELOPED.

With work progressing on the breakwater at Newport Bay, Newport bids fair to become one of the important fish shipping points in Southern California. The residents of Newport and Balboa are united in an effort to develop their fisheries asset to the utmost. Already a fish packing plant is under construction and a substantial bulkhead has been built for the accommodation of boats and markets.

Newport is one of the principal smelt shipping points in California, a normal day's shipment consisting of from four to twelve tons of these fish. With the improvement work now under way the scope of the fisheries at Newport will be enlarged greatly. Already a number of fishing boats are planning on making Newport Bay their home port.—C. S. B.

FISHING VILLAGE COMPELLED TO MOVE.

The Pacific Electric Railway Company has served notices on the fishermen and other residents of Port Los Angeles ordering them to vacate their premises on or before January 1, 1920, and already the removal of this picturesque fishing village is under way. The above company has also filed a petition with the State Railroad Commission asking permission to abandon service to Port Los Angeles. It is claimed the wharf is in a rickety condition and that traffic does not justify continued service to this point. It is planned to remove the wharf at once if permission is granted.

The village at Port Los Angeles was established in 1905 by H. Sano and Dick Tododie, two fishermen, and at one time contained approximately two hundred men, women and children dependent upon the fishing business. As high as ten thousand pounds of fish has been unloaded at the wharf in one day by fishing boats operating off Port Los Angeles; but with the development of the fishing industry at San Pedro most of the fishing boats left for the latter port. As a result the amount of fish received over the wharf has decreased until today a normal day's shipment from Port Los Angeles consists only of approximately fifteen hundred pounds. There are still about sixty Japanese and Russian fishermen engaged in fishing at Port Los Angeles and all of them are planning on moving to other points in the near future.

The wharf at Port Los Angeles was constructed twenty-eight years ago by certain interests who planned on making this point the port of entry to Los Angeles. When built it was over five thousand feet long, but damage by storms four years ago caused the removal of about two thousand feet of the pier. It has always been one of the popular piers for anglers who still refer to it as "Long Wharf." During the runs of mackerel, corbina and

FIG. 13. Wharf and picturesque fishing village at Port Los Angeles, which is being moved by order of the owners of the land. Photograph by C. S. Bauder.

pompano, approximately four hundred rod and reel sportsmen could be counted fishing from the wharf.—C. S. B.

SEAPLANES TO LOCATE FISH.

It has generally been known for many years that many sea birds are dependent on their eyesight to locate their food while flying over the water. So what is more natural than for seaplanes to locate schools of fish in the same manner? Needless to say the fish canners of San Diego, who have been somewhat alarmed at the continued absence of sardines which have been appearing in large numbers elsewhere on the Pacific Coast, rejoiced at the suggestion of this idea.

Definite arrangements have now been made with Lieutenant Lincoln, the naval commandant in charge of operations at the Naval Air Station at San Diego, whereby regular seaplane flights will be undertaken by the navy aviators to look for schools of fish. The first flight will take place on December 15 and they will continue to patrol each day any certain portion of the sea that is desired by the canners.

When a seaplane sights a school of fish it will wire back to Rockwell Field from where the information will be telephoned to the Fish and Game Commission office at San Diego for distribution to the several canneries. A submarine chaser always hovers in the vicinity of a flying plane so as to be near in case of an accident. So it may be that the news can be sent to the nearby fishermen the quicker by means of the wireless on these boats.

While these flights may not be of so much value in winter because of the roughness of the weather, they will later on prove of much material benefit to all parties concerned when the larger fish are running. They will also settle the fact of whether certain schools of fish are running in those portions of the ocean further out than the present small fishing boats go, as the seaplanes have a four hundred mile radius of operation. It may thus be the beginning of continued prosperity to all canners and fishermen in this section as well as of aid in the investigation work of the Fish and Game Commission by showing routes, locations, and migrations of different fishes.—L. H. H.

AGAR-AGAR TO BE MANUFACTURED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

After two years of diligent research, Mr. C. Matsuoka of Los Angeles has effected an improved process for converting several species of the common marine algæ found on the Southern California coast into agar-agar, and plans are under way for the construction of a thirty-thousand dollar plant at Tropico, California, where this product will be manufactured on a commercial scale. When completed this plant will have a capacity of approximately one ton of dried seaweed per day, and its operation will mark the beginning of a new industry in the United States. Experiments which have been carried on by Mr. Matsuoka demonstrate that agar-agar of a much superior quality to the imported article can be produced from our native seaweeds.

There are approximately fifteen species of marine algæ found on the California coast which may be used in the manufacture of agar-agar. Among the varieties found in sufficient quantities for commercial uses are: *Gelidium corneum*, *Geledium cartilagineum*, *Gracellaria confervoides*, *Euchema spinosium*, and various species of *Tenax* and *Gigartenæ*.

Practically all of the world's supply of agar-agar is produced in China, Japan, Ceylon, and Malaysia. During the year 1919 there were two hundred and forty tons of agar-agar shipped to the United States from Japan where the manufacture of this product has reached the proportions of an important and well established industry. In the latter country only ten species of seaweeds are found which are used in its manufacture.

It is prepared for the market in two ways. One method consists in drying and bleaching the thallus of the algæ in the sun. The other method consists in making a jelly of the seaweeds, allowing the water to freeze out and cutting the residue into thin strips and drying thoroughly. The American Agar Company intends to use the latter method.

Agar-agar is one of the most useful products obtained from seaweeds. It is used in the manufacture of vegetable isinglass, capsules, candy, paints, and culture media for bacteriological research. During

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the European war it was successfully employed in the treatment of war wounds. It is supplied to the drug trade commercially in dry, transparent crystals that are reduced to a coarse powder for medicinal use. It has the natural property of absorbing water and retaining it; and in medicine, the additional property of resisting the action of intestinal bacteria and of the digestive enzymes. It is prepared by boiling and may be eaten with milk or cream, or mixed with any of the ordinary cereal foods with the addition of salt or sugar.—C. S. BAUDER.

NOTES FROM THE STATE FISHERIES LABORATORY.*

By WILL F. THOMPSON and ELMER HIGGINS.

THE INAUGURATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORK ON THE SARDINE.

The past quarter has seen the inauguration of a definite program of investigation of the sardine. This species has become the most important to our commercial fisheries, and it is necessary that we learn something concerning its habits and that we have as detailed a knowledge as possible of the course of the fishery. A resume of the program will be found in another part of this magazine (p. 10).

In order that desired results may be obtained, Mr. O. E. Sette, formerly stationed in Long Beach as collector, has been transferred to Monterey, where he will observe the sardine run throughout its season, under the direction of Mr. Thompson.

To date (November 28), the sardine run in Southern California has not really begun, only very small fish being in evidence. The shortage in cans has, however, been the only hampering factor at Monterey.

SOME RECENT FISHERY PUBLICATIONS.

A publication of the United States National Museum has recently appeared, describing the guano birds of Peru. As Dr. R. E. Coker, the author, states, "Peruvian guano is indirectly but obviously a product of fish. The birds in this case fulfill a function comparable to that of the American factories that convert fish into fertilizer." He also says "a quantity of more than 10,000,000 tons of high grade guano is reported to have been extracted from the Chincha Islands between 1851 and 1872." The pictures accompanying the report are remarkable, showing the great numbers of birds on the nesting places. The paper should be of great interest both to those interested in birds and those interested in fish.**

Dr. R. E. Coker has also another recent publication to which attention may be called, namely that on the "Freshwater Mussels and Mussel Industries of the United States." These mussels are used for button-making in an extensive industry. The bulletin deals with phases of the industry and describes the species, although it does not review the excellent work which has been done in recent years on the strange life history of these mussels, for the most part by employees of the Bureau of Fisheries.†—W. F. T.

A SNIPE-FISH FROM CATALINA.

The president of the Tuna Club of Catalina Island, Mr. J. A. Coxe, gave the undersigned a very small fish, with a long snout, which he said had been picked up on the beach at Avalon. This fish proved to be identical with the *Macrorhamphosus hawaiiensis* described by Dr. C. H. Gilbert from near Laysan Island, as taken by the United States Bureau of Fisheries steamer "Albatross." A figure of this species may be seen in Volume 23, Part 2, of the Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Fisheries. According to a recent review of the species of the family, the form found in the Hawaiian Islands is the same as a species taken in East Africa, the Indian Ocean, China, and the Medit-

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 16.

**Habits and Economic Relations of the Guano Birds of Peru, by R. E. Coker. Proceedings of the United States National Museum, Vol. 56, pages 449-911. Plates 53-69. Document No. 2298.

†Fresh Water Mussels and Mussel Industries of the United States, by R. E. Coker. Bulletin of the Bureau of Fisheries, Vol. 36. Document No. 865.

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erranean, namely *Macrorhamphosus velitaris* Pallas.‡

If this is true, the species is very widespread indeed. The writer has not had the opportunity of comparing specimens from these various localities, hence it is not possible to state positively that this species is in reality the somewhat cosmopolitan one mentioned above. That from Catalina was compared directly with the type of *Macrorhamphosus hawaiiensis*. This is a new and most interesting record for our Pacific Coast, this form not being an active swimmer as most recently found "visitors" are.—W. F. T.

THE "RUNNER" FISH IN LOWER CALIFORNIA.

Mr. Gilbert Van Camp of the Van Camp Sea Food Company has in his possession a mounted specimen of the "Runner" of tropical seas, *Elagatis bipinnulatus* (Quoy and Gaimard). It was taken at Cape San Lucas, Lower California, during the spring months of 1919, while its owner was engaged in operating a cannery in Lower California.

This is, in so far as the writer is aware, the sole record of this species from the western coast of North America, although known from the East Indies, the West Indies, Hawaii, India, and occasionally north as far as Long Island on the eastern coast of the United States.

The species may obviously be expected some time to put in an appearance on the coast of Southern California. It is one of those species commonly supposed to be widely distributed, although specimens from different regions have not been closely compared to make the fact certain.

It is to be recognized by the long dorsal and anal fins and by the presence behind each of a detached finlet containing two rays. It belongs to the same family of fishes as does our common yellow-tail (*Seriola*), namely the Carangidæ.—W. F. T.

THE OCCURRENCE OF THE JAPANESE HERRING.

IN CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME for April, 1918, page 4, Professor Starks of Stanford University, in reviewing the herrings and herring-like fishes of California, briefly describes and gives an illustration of the Japanese herring, *Etrumeus microps*. He says in part: "The Japanese herring is a common species in the Hawaiian Islands and in Japan. Specimens have been taken at San Diego, and a few years ago two specimens were sent to Stanford University from that locality with the statement that it was not rare in certain seasons. It should be looked for and its appearance and abundance reported to the State Fish and Game Commission."

A specimen of this species was taken with the sardines caught November 3, 1919, by the boat "Maru," near San Pedro, according to Mr. E. M. Nielsen of the San Pedro office of the Commission. The specimen was forwarded to the laboratory and proved to be the Japanese herring. It resembles the sardine closely enough to be difficult to distinguish, and its appearance may be frequent despite its apparent rarity.—W. F. T.

DEEP SEA "MONSTER" CAPTURED.

Among the strange fishes taken in the fine-meshed nets used on the boat "Albacore" for the collection of young fish, there is none more bizarre in appearance than the great-mouthed ferocious looking little monster, *Idiacanthus antrostomus*, Gilbert. This fish is about three inches long, jet black in color, and of slender worm-like form. A row of luminous spots are placed on each side, supposedly supplying light, for at the depth normally inhabited by this fish, there is little light. The head is large, the eyes small, and the mouth enormous, bristling with fang-like teeth of assorted sizes.

This species has only been recorded by Dr. Gilbert in 1890 as taken off Catalina Island at a depth of 603 fathoms. Our specimens were taken May 6, 1919, at night in but 20 fathoms, one near Catalina and one about 90 miles off shore, near Cortez Bank. Other closely related species have been taken, one in the mid-Atlantic from a depth of 2750 fathoms, and one from off the Chilean coast from 677 fathoms.—E. H.

MEXICAN FISHES IN CALIFORNIA PORTS.

One of the finest food fishes to come into Southern California ports during the last season was the Spanish mackerel,

‡See Regan Annals and Magazine of Natural History, (8) 13, p. 17.

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Scomberomcrus sierra, which was brought to San Diego from Mexico during October in considerable quantity. These fish are rarely taken as far north as San Diego, but are said by fishermen to be plentiful on the Mexican coast, a considerable distance north of Cerros Island.

Two beautiful specimens sent us by Mr. Helwig of the San Diego office of the Commission, are of interest because of the arrangement and number of orange spots on the sides of the fish, which are more numerous than in any description of the species, and are arranged in about 18 or 20 diagonal rows.

Mr. Neilsen, statistical assistant at San Pedro, informs us that a cargo of these fish was also brought to that port during the summer.—E. H.

FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE "CRESTED BAND-FISH."

On July 25, 1919, a rare and beautiful fish was brought to the laboratory, of so strange a form that it proved quite a curiosity to fishermen and others. The specimen was found to be a species of *Lophotes*, probably *L. cepedianus*, Giorna, the "crested band-fish." The fish was found swimming feebly in the breakers at Long Beach and was caught by a couple of passers-by who waded into the surf and seized it in their hands. It was taken to a photographer by Mr. V. E. Pearl, where the accompanying photograph (Fig. 14) was made, and the fish was then given to us.

The fish is long and much compressed, being about four feet long, eight inches deep, and only one and three-eighths inches wide. The skin is smooth, without scales, except for a single row against the dorsal fin, and of a bright silvery color with purplish tints on the head. The eye is large and placed low; the mouth is small and armed with many small bristle-like teeth; the fins are bright red, the dorsal extending from the head to the tail. The first ray of the dorsal fin is produced, forming a high crest about eighteen inches long. Unfortunately it was broken in making the capture, but was said to bear several membranous streamers which were red like the fins.

This is the first specimen which has fallen into the hands of naturalists in America. Indeed, probably not more than a dozen specimens have ever been taken, and its rarity makes its occurrence in California well worthy of note. The species was first described by Professor Giorna, of the Academy of Turin, in 1803. Like many other pelagic fishes, it is evidently very widely distributed. It has been taken at various other places in the Mediterranean, at the Cape of Good Hope, and in New Zealand. Single specimens of the same or very closely related species have also been taken near the Madeira Islands and in Japan. None of the specimens have been taken in the fish's natural habitat which is said to be moderate depths in the open sea, but all have been cast ashore in a greatly enfeebled or damaged condition.

FIG. 14. Crested band-fish. *Lophotes cepediaris*? Taken in the surf at Long Beach, California, July 25, 1919. Photograph by V. E. Pearl.

Several species of *Lophotes* have been described but the material for study has been so slight—a single specimen in most cases—that it is entirely doubtful whether more than one or two species exist. Our specimen differs in some respects from the current descriptions of any of the supposed species, but it seems likely that it belongs to the first named, *L. cepedianus* of Giorna. Nor is the relationship of the

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family well understood. Dr. Jordan, in his "Guide to the Study of Fishes," remarks, "It is thought that the *Lophotidæ* may be related to the ribbon fishes, *Taeniosomi*, but on the whole they seem nearer the highly modified *Scombroidei*, the *Pteraclidæ*, for example." Thus our fish is placed in the group of mackerel-like fishes which contains such peculiar forms as the pomfret, the dolphin fish, the luvar, and the square-tail—all previously recorded in CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME.—E. H.

CONSERVATION IN OTHER STATES.

NEW YORK ENFORCES CONSERVATION LAWS.

In a recent New York case a violator of the game laws was held in $1,000 bail and later paid a $500 fine. The fact that nothing but the highest commendation, because of the amount of these sums, has been expressed by the newspapers, is an indication of the growing determination of the public to support the conservation laws. There was a time when case after case of this character was thrown out of court, or sentence suspended, largely, it would seem, from lack of a full comprehension of the basic principles underlying the conservation law; but the striking contrast of recent cases disposed of shows that all over the land there is an awakening interest in game conservation and a determination to see that the game laws are enforced.—*The Conservationist*, Vol. 2, p. 94.

PROTECTION OF SOCKEYE SALMON.

There was signed at Washington on September 2, 1919, a treaty between the United States and Great Britain, having for its object the protection and rehabilitation of the sockeye salmon in the contiguous waters of the State of Washington and the Province of British Columbia. The protection accorded the salmon under this treaty is such as was determined to be necessary by the International Fisheries Conference which held hearings in Washington and British Columbia in 1918.

MINNESOTA AUCTIONS CONFISCATED GEAR.

The official bulletin of the Minnesota Game and Fish Department shows a photograph of a part of the accumulated paraphernalia confiscated during the past three years. The picture shows nets and traps of all kinds and a row of more than a hundred and fifty guns and rifles. The property was disposed of at public auction on August 1 and 2, 1919, the net proceeds accruing from the sale amounting to $2,592.70.

VIRGINIA FAVORS NEW TYPE OF REFUGE.

Instead of setting aside well stocked areas as game refuges, the State of Virginia is planning some game preserves. Owners of tracts from 200 to 400 acres in each of the 400 odd magisterial districts are being sought who will bequeath to the commonwealth exclusive shooting privileges on such tracts. The state will then post the areas and plant thereon mated pairs of quail, which the state will secure from Texas. The quail are to be fed for the first few weeks, but no attempt will be made to keep them within the preserve, on the theory that if they are hunted outside the preserve they will speedily learn the places where they are not disturbed.

MINNESOTA BREAKS RECORD.

During the year 1918 the Minnesota Fish and Game Commission reared 333,792,127 fry and fingerlings. This breaks all records for the state, the output having been about tripled since 1911.

CANADA ISSUES EDUCATIONAL FILMS.

The Ontario government has recently organized the Ontario Motion Picture Bureau for the express purpose of issuing propaganda by means of films. The Bureau now has 200 films, covering 82 different subjects, which are appearing before large audiences throughout Ontario. Of particular interest are two films entitled "Fish as Food" and "Ontario Fisheries." More and more are fish and game resources being advertised by means of films.

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LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

FOREST FIRES DESTROY GAME.

The forest fires in the Angeles National Forest during the fall of 1919 were very destructive to game of all kinds. The burned area covers over two hundred thousand acres of the forested canyons and ridges and brush covered hillsides (see Fig. 15).

The carcasses of deer have been found by fire fighters in many places. Gray squirrels and mountain quail have suffered severely.

I have just made a survey of conditions in Pacoima Canyon, and the Little Tujunga and Big Tujunga canyons. In the first two, which are outside of, but adjoining the Game Refuge, I saw numbers of dead rabbits, squirrels and mountain quail. Big Tujunga escaped total destruction, as the flames did not cross to the east side.

No doubt most of the game escaped death by flame and smoke, but the destruction of food will lead to widespread famine later. Fanned by a high wind that blew from the desert side toward the sea, the flames in places swept away every bit of vegetation. The game had no choice but to flee before the flames, toward the foothills, near the towns of San Fernando, Sunland, Monte Vista, Pasadena and Azusa, where they sought shelter in vain, because the fire swept widely, over the entire brush covered hills of the south slopes of the Sierra Madre Mountains.

It was pitiful to see dozens of mountain quail, gathered around a little pool of water in a canyon, their feathers burned and topknots gone. In dozens of places I came across similar groups.

The greatest menace to game comes from the destruction of food. At this time the seeds had all ripened, and the walnuts, pine nuts, acorns and manzanitas were ready to eat. These have been burned over a wide expanse, and the coming on of winter will make it hard for game to exist.

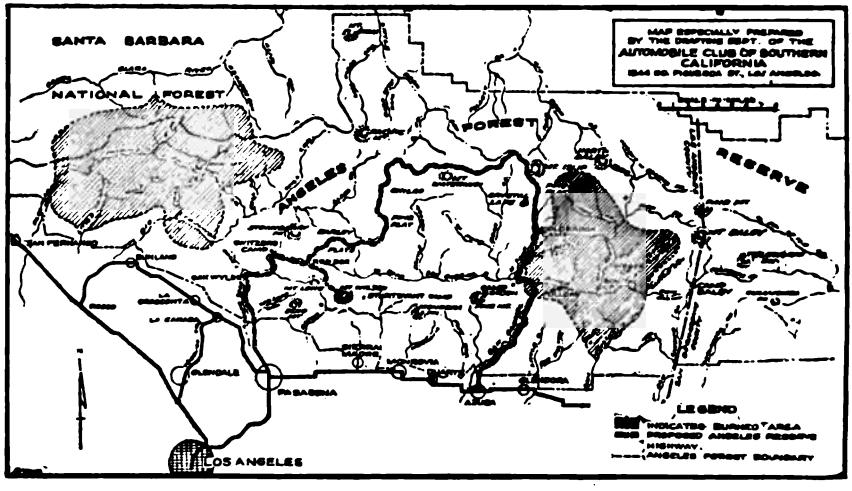

FIG. 15. Map of Angeles National Forest area destroyed by devastating forest fires during the fall of 1919. Severe injury to game was the natural result.

The recent rains in Southern California fell at a very opportune time, and so gently as not to cause any erosion. Three weeks after the rain the burnt over hillsides were becoming green.

A feature of the destruction of covers for game must not be forgotten. Rabbits and quail, I found, are massing on patches of unburned territory. Overcrowding will result, and hunters will find it easy to kill most of the game in such places. A rancher at the mouth of the Little Tujunga told me that hunters had killed sixty-eight rabbits in a forty-acre field

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in a couple of hours on the Sunday after the fire, and seventy-eight the following Sunday.

There is a bright side to the picture: a great deal of food was spared in creek beds. A large crop of quail had been raised and enough will be spared for breeding next season, and the early rains have already sprouted the grass and weeds. The game will be restored in time, but nature lovers and sportsmen should work together to prevent a repetition of these fires by enlisting government, state and county aid, building roads and fire breaks and check dams in the mountains, and reforesting the burnt areas.—CHARLES G. STIVERS, M.D., Los Angeles, California.

DOE WITH THREE FAWNS.

During the latter part of August, the writer ran across a doe with three fawns in the lava bed section of the Modoc National Forest. I was able to come quite close to the animals, which showed little signs of fear. I am quite positive that there were no other deer in that immediate vicinity at that time, as I had been fighting fire close by and had been all around the place where I saw the doe and fawns. I thought it unusual to see a doe with three fawns, especially as the little fellows ranged themselves alongside the doe as if they were perfectly at home and belonged there. I stood looking at the three of them and they at me at a distance of not more than thirty feet for about a minute, the old doe stamping her foot at me; then they trotted off leisurely into the brush.—WM. S. BROWN, Alturas, California.

WILD CAT EATS CHICKENS.

I recently opened up two wild cats (*Lynx eremicus californicus*) to see what they had been eating. In the stomach of one I found the remains of two small Plymouth Rock chickens which must have been caught at least five miles from where the cat was killed, and in the other the remains of three mountain quail.—D. W. MAXEY, Gorman, California.

FOOD OF THE BOBCAT.

The wild cat (*Lynx eremicus californicus*) is still found in numbers here, as indicated by the number being trapped in the Monterey district of the Santa Barbara National Forest. Wild cats feed on the smaller game animals and birds. I watched one of these animals in his attempts to secure a breakfast last summer. He stole up on a covey of mountain quail, and as he flushed them, got two. I have found feathers of both mountain and valley quail, which investigation proved were left from a feast by wild cats.—H. H. HUNT.

SOUP-FIN SHARK EATS ABALONE.

In July of last year I was fishing for sharks off the bridge at Ocean Beach when the last shark I caught used my last bait (a small perch). I operated on the shark in an effort to retrieve my bait and was surprised to find an abalone out of the shell and apparently still alive, as it seemed to still have muscular action. Anyway I am positive it was taken out of the shell alive and I wondered how the shark accomplished it. The shark in question was a little over six feet long, weighed I judged about 120 pounds, and is what we call sand shark or soup-fin shark (*Galeorhinus zyopterus*).—A. R. MILLER, East San Diego, California.

DOES THE BARROW GOLDEN-EYE BREED IN THE SIERRAS?

The Barrow golden-eye (*Clangula islandica*) is a rare duck in California, there being less than a dozen records for the state. Furthermore, these records show it to be a winter visitant which occurs almost entirely in the central part of the state. However, this duck being a common breeder in the Rocky Mountain district, and having been found breeding in Oregon and Washington, it would seem possible that it might also breed around the higher Sierran lakes. Evidence that this is doubtless true was obtained this past summer. While on a pack trip from Tahoe to Yosemite, Smedberg Lake, in the northern part of the Yosemite National Park, was visited on August 25, 1919. On the lake were a pair of golden-eyes and six young. The adult birds were closely approached, making identification easy. In that no thought was given to the possibility of these golden-eyes being of the rarer species, no attempt was made to ascertain the shape of the white spot between the eye and

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the bill. However, as it is very unlikely that the American golden-eye would be found in such a situation during the summer season, it seems reasonable to record the occurrence of the Barrow golden-eye at the above time and place, thus establishing the first record of summer occurrence.—H. C. BRYANT, Berkeley, California.

MEADOWLARKS CONTROL CRICKET PEST.

The State of Washington, with the aid of agents of the United States Department of Agriculture, has been attempting to control the coulee cricket, which devastates large areas in the vicinity of Adrian, Washington. According to Mr. Max Reeher, scientific assistant in the United States Bureau of Entomology, western meadowlarks appeared in great numbers in the Dry Coulee last fall and began eating the newly hatched crickets. So efficient were these birds in controlling the situation that arrangements for a 1919 control campaign were abandoned. The meadowlarks were almost entirely responsible for the complete cleanup of the area.—A. C. BURRILL, Forest Grove, Oregon.

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REPORTS

SEIZURES—FISH, GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

July 1 to September 30, 1919.

Game.

Deer meat	1,424	pounds
Quail	10	
Ducks	63	
Pigeon	4	
Rabbits	51	
Deer hides	8	
Miscellaneous birds	19	

Fish.

Striped bass	1,321½	pounds
Black bass	22	pounds
Halibut	5,890	pounds
Catfish	45	pounds
Whitefish	15	pounds
Trout	70	pounds
Salmon	292	pounds
Perch	7	pounds
Barracuda	250	pounds
Crabs	267	
Lobsters	127	
Clams	457	
Clams	675	pounds
Dried shrimps	3,500	pounds
Abalones (dried)	150	cases
Abalones	47	
Nets (illegal)	2	

Searches.

Illegal fish and game	13

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CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS—COMPILED BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES.

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 1919.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Colusa, Sutter	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Total	Mexico
Albacore												10,175,462	126	2,048,882	12,224,470	
Anchovy								18,070		336,675		24,365		21,670	400,780	
Barracuda								775	2,458	24,087	56,756	616,964	13,714	474,366	1,189,120	127,569
Bluefish									7,728	15,283					23,011	
Bocaccio		81	117,900					32,840	4,515	211,756					466,931	
Bonito										22	18,672	1,331,102	581	156,083	1,506,410	9,568
Carp				225	26,184		1,458	806							28,668	
Catfish				5,823	765		4,018	708							10,814	
Chilipepper								79,061	337						79,398	
Coalfish								176,147	2,762	1,586					180,495	
Cultus cod	6,437	51,679						143,223	18,698	9,860		205			230,097	
Dogfish			308				566	6,320	460	1,050		19,380		205,672	233,756	
Dolphin																
Eels																
Flounder								81,217	79	1,068	2,996	4,192	254		89,806	
Greenfish																
Hake								39,480	1,309	238		699		665	42,891	
Halibut	12,868	81,945	343					3,006	668	13,042	74,557	120,476	14,947	116,451	438,298	898,914
Hardhead																
Herring																
Kingfish								3,910	10,604	14,812	38	19,458	40	404	49,266	
Mackerel	180								1,199	91,498	11,956	585,410	11,094	70,523	771,855	4,106
Martin																
Mullet														109	109	
Perch	143		132				25	3,245	936	1,329		3,417	221	8,169	17,617	
Pike				48			67								115	
Pompano								16	342			1,769		31	2,158	
Rock bass											571	66,162	4,776	113,661	185,160	
Rock fish	7,456	499						248,588	48,757	112,128	11,008	108,965	735	33,373	571,509	6,100
Salmon	505,967	2,489,490	1,884	1,346,809	197,172		1,494,849	1,361,576	14,925	86,091		10			7,501,763	

Sanddab								98,277	29,519	971	1,211	1,265		1,170	132,413	
Sardine			141,700					7,855	2,041,604	31,237,336	54	432,541	25	1,407,069	35,268,784	
Sculpin												7,946	540		8,486	
Sea bass (black)											2,555	19,129	859	19,406	41,949	10,175
Sea bass (white)	124		12,430					5,411	291,083	12,205	22,018	828,112	2,259	63,482	1,237,124	36,490
Sea trout	47											7,218		2,698	9,963	
Shad				1,109	1,003		1,713								3,825	
Shad (buck)																
Shad (roe)				45											45	
Sheepshead												168	842	218	1,228	
Skate								13,445			393	272			14,110	
Skipjack									1,650	1,343		3,835,093		2,440,398	6,278,484	
Smelt	6,849		27,902					27,527	20,528	72,492	2,707	7,517	9,241	1,899	176,162	
Sole	936							1,232,301	81,463	8,593	11,386	9,792			1,344,421	
Split tail							480								480	
Striped bass				12,952	1,539		67,421	33,476		956					116,344	
Stingaree			38,200												38,200	
Suckers																
Surf fish																
Swordfish												17,900		352	18,252	
Tomcod								4,515							4,515	
Trout (steelhead)	17,162														17,162	
Tuna											17	1,640,642	854	121,144	1,762,657	48,482
Tuna (blue fin)												18,292,406		38,398	18,330,804	
Tuna (yellow fin)												345,862		58	345,920	
Turbot								280							280	
Whitebait								1,073							1,073	
Yellowtail												409,988	3,881	1,539,322	1,953,191	6,983
Miscellaneous							21	14,402	2,222	1,976	11,019	47,511	1,092	4,464	82,707	855
Total fish	558,159	2,623,693	340,799	1,366,511	226,663		1,570,613	3,640,550	2,583,836	32,356,232	227,864	33,981,388	66,081	8,890,187	88,482,576	1,149,281
Crustaceans—																
Crab (doz.)	287							1,558	22	26					1,893	
Ecrevisse (doz.)																
Shrimp								271,054							271,054	
Spiny lobster																157,529
Mollusks—																
Abalones									515	32,739	298,255				331,509	
Clam (cockle)			1,225										830		2,055	
Clam (mixed)	4,049	942	6,009					171							11,171	
Clam (Pismo)									100		108,664				108,764	
Clam (soft shell)		732	1,160				68,757								70,749	

CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS—Continued.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Colusa, Sutter	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Total	Mexico
Cuttle fish								1,570	547	1,337	30				3,484	
Limpets													8,350		8,350	
Mussels	210						564	765			2,096	300	8,425		12,460	
Oysters (shell)																
Eastern No.			482,855					987,975							1,470,830	
Oysters (native)			36,494												36,494	
Snails, sea																
Squid										67,941		79			68,020	
Miscellaneous—																
Frogs (doz.)								23							23	
Terrapin (doz.)						10		21			10				41	
Turtle, sea																82,000

A CORRECTION—In the October issue of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME, page 209, in the report on California fresh fishery products for April, May and June, 1919, there was an error in the catch shown for Los Angeles County. The tuna catch was 331,729 pounds and was shown as turbot. The blue-fin tuna catch was 1,659,119 pounds and was shown as yellow-fin tuna.

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

July 1 to September 30, 1919.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	54	$775 00
Refusing to show license on demand	1	10 00
Making false statement on application	1	20 00
Deer—excess limit—close season—killing or possession	31	840 00
Female deer—spike bucks—fawns—killing or possession	39	2,160 00
Illegal deer hides	15	300 00
Failure to retain head and horns of deer	8	425 00
Hunting on posted grounds	7	175 00
Fur-bearing mammals—close season—killing or possession	4	95 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	3	30 00
Shore birds—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season—possession	23	520 00
Wild pigeons—close season—killing or possession	4	120 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	11	225 00
Quail—close season—killing or possession	26	885 00
Ducks—close season—killing or possession	7	155 00
Tree squirrels—close season—killing or possession	1	
Grouse—close season—killing or possession	2	50 00
Total game violations	238	$6,810 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	13	$280 00
Fishing for profit without license	18	275 00
Trout—excess limit—close season—taking or possession	4	150 00
Trout—taking other than by hook and line	1	25 00
Striped bass—close season—sale—underweight—excess limit	16	495 00
Black bass—close season—sale—underweight—excess limit	2	50 00
Salmon—excess limit—Sunday fishing	2	200 00
Crabs—undersized—close season—taking or possession	2	40 00
Clams—undersized—close season—excess limit—taking or possession	6	150 00
Abalones—undersized—close season—taking or possession	3	75 00
Lobsters—under or oversized—close season—taking or possession	4	60 00
Dried shrimps—possession	8	180 00
Illegal nets	5	550 00
Pollution of waters	1	200 00
Total fish violations	85	$2,730 00
Grand total fish and game violations	323	$9,540 00

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—YEAR 1919.

Items of expense	June	July	August
General administration	$2,242 94	$2,714 57	$3,037 71
Research, publicity and education	334 97	403 29	228 49
Printing	308 81		1,476 71
Fish exhibits			569 58
Game exhibits			
Tahoe Camping Ground		1,257 71	1,296 17
Mountain lion bounties	160 00	240 00	260 00
Lithographing hunting licenses		1,440 00	
Lithographing angling licenses			
Hunting license commissions	1,573 90	1,396 30	755 70
Angling license commissions	2,066 10	1,651 00	453 90
Market fishing commissions	7 00	38 50	54 50
	$6,693 72	$9,141 37	$8,132 76
San Francisco district	$6,680 73	$7,196 73	$7,480 37
Sacramento district	5,143 76	5,394 08	5,650 36
Los Angeles district	2,509 20	2,566 81	2,915 85
Launch patrol	1,435 64	1,069 94	2,393 80
Prosecutions (fish and game)	82 30		135 00
Crawfish inspection	200 00	122 58	100 00
Winter game feeding			
Accident and death claims	124 04	124 04	284 14
	$16,175 67	$16,474 18	$18,959 52
Hatchery administration	$1,215 11	$1,197 91	$983 65
Mount Shasta Hatchery	2,462 24	5,683 06	6,029 26
Klamath Station	5 00	5 00	617 07
Fall Creek Hatchery	390 95	826 96	442 03
Mount Whitney Hatchery	1,444 29	1,760 91	2,859 33
Cottonwood Creek Station		25 00	
Cottonwood Lakes Station	239 00	97 16	
Tahoe Hatchery	100 00	5 00	5 00
Tallac Hatchery	372 75	566 13	581 36
Chico Experimental Station	250 00	221 72	30 00
Fort Seward Hatchery	384 10	696 01	630 76
Eel River Station			
Ukiah Hatchery	311 01	496 02	139 15
Snow Mountain Station		157 00	
Brookdale Hatchery	388 05	492 30	442 98
Scott Creek Station	30 00	31 00	31 00
Feather River Hatchery			
Almanor Hatchery	332 70	162 50	149 36
Domingo Springs Hatchery	473 56	1,331 49	992 47
Clear Creek Hatchery	162 57	145 64	1,168 98
Bear Lake Hatchery	269 03	443 52	716 41
North Creek Station	208 25	31 34	
Wawona Hatchery	93 76	127 70	
Yosemite Hatchery	176 93	284 05	251 64
Kaweah Hatchery	112 51	156 21	180 54
Fish Transplanting	3 00	3 00	3 00
Screens, fishways and water pollution	635 84	686 19	883 30
Special field investigation			
	$10,060 65	$15,632 82	$17,132 24
Department of Commercial Fisheries	3,914 92	4,283 53	5,085 21
	$36,844 96	$45,531 90	$49,259 73

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

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THE ABALONES OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.*

By WILL F. THOMPSON.

In northern California there are found three species of abalone: namely, *Haliotis rufescens,* Swainson, the red; *H. cracherodii,* Leach, the black; and *H. wallalensis,* Stearns, the northern green abalone. Earnest search has failed to reveal the abalone of British Columbia and Alaska, *H. gigantea,* Chemnitz. But one of these, the first named, is found in numbers rendering it of importance as food. It is exceedingly difficult to gauge the absolute abundance of this red abalone in any place without the aid of diver's apparatus. For that reason it has been judged best to give merely a record of the localities in which specimens were obtained, and a general statement as to the abundance along the various parts of the coast. *H. cracherodii* reaches its greatest abundance to the southward of San Francisco, and it is present in northern California only occasionally.

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*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 17.

FIG. 16. Red abalone (*Haliotis rufescens* Swainson), from Crescent City, California. Length 8½ inches.

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Abalones dwell solely along the outer coasts, but there they dwell wherever they are afforded a foothold on or beneath rocks on a coast free from loose sand and mud. The red abalone is found below extreme low tide line and occasionally a little above, the black is at a higher level and rarely below low tide line, while the northern green abalone is found only at about low tide level as far as known. All species agree, however, in requiring a rocky, surf-beaten coast, and the localities given below are all of this nature.

Haliotis rufescens was found in some numbers in the following localities by others than the writer, if enclosed in parentheses:

(Point Saint George, rarely.)
Patrick's Point, rarely.
Cape Mendocino, rarely.
McNutt's Gulch, near Cape Mendocino.
Mattole River, 1 to 1½ miles north of Cape Mendocino.
(Punta Gorda.)
Spanish Flats, 124 degrees 15 minutes west, 40 degrees 20 minutes north.
(Fraser's Creek, near Cape Mendocino.)
Shelter Cove, abundant.
(Whale Gulch to Needle Rock.)
Bear Landing, in moderate abundance.
Usal, 123 degrees 50 minutes west, 40 degrees north.
(Rockport.)
Hardie's Creek.
(Union Landing.)
Abalone Point, 123 degrees 48 minutes west, 39 degrees 50 minutes north.
Bruhel's Point (McRay's Point).
(Kibesillah Rock.)
(Hare Creek and Beaver Point.)
(Caspar, 39 degrees 11 minutes north, 123 degrees 49 minutes west.)
(Newhaven Landing.)
(Manchester.)
Point Arena, abundant.
Arena Cove.
Buster Beach, 123 degrees 43 minutes west, 38 degrees 57 minutes north, abundant.
(Hayward's Beach.)
Saunders' Landing, 123 degrees 40 minutes west, 38 degrees 51 minutes north.
Bowen's Landing.
Gualala, 123 degrees 31 minutes west, 38 degrees 45 minutes north.
(Del Mar to Stewart's Point.)
Stewart's Point.
(Salt Point.)
(Fort Ross.)
Russian River.
(Bodega Head.)
(Tomales Point.)
Point Reyes, moderate abundance.
Duxbury Reef.
(Bolinas Point.)
(Double Point.)

From Point Saint George, the northernmost record, it was possible to obtain no live specimens, but Mr. Franz of Crescent City contributed a shell which he had kept for some time as an unusual specimen. At Patrick's Point live specimens were taken, and they were abundant enough so that eight or nine might be obtained by searching diligently throughout a low tide. Not until Cape Mendocino was reached were there sufficient numbers to render the species of importance, while at Shelter Cove, about forty miles southward, there was an abundance. From that locality to Point Reyes it might be considered that there was a slight increase in abundance when equally favorable situations were compared, and the effect of the relative amount of local use was considered. At Point Reyes, the abalone has been obtained by divers, with apparatus enabling them to go to considerable depths, and it is probable that such methods could be used as far north as Shelter Cove with success.

Haliotis cracherodii, the black abalone, reaches as far north as Point Arena, where an occasional specimen is found by local men. But one was obtained from that locality. They are also found at Duxbury Reef, and are reputed to be found now and then in the regions between Point Arena and San Francisco, but no actual evidence was obtained. In no locality in northern California do they reach any abundance,

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FIG. 17. Black abalone (*Haliotis cracherodii* Leach), from Point Arena, California. Length 6¼ inches.

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FIG. 18. Northern green abalone (*Haliotis wallalensis* Stearns), from Abalone Point near Westport, California. Length 4¾ inches.

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however, which would justify calling them anything but rarities until Duxbury Reef is reached, and it is safe to say that they will never be of commercial importance.

Haliotis wallalensis, Stearns, is a small species distributed along the coast between Westport and the Russian River, a distance of about a hundred miles. Although it is often found in numbers sufficient to be of importance to local users, it is small and little valued save for the very beautiful shells. Despite the extensive use made of abalones, the species has, to our knowledge, only occasionally been found south of the Russian River, namely at Monterey, where it is regarded as a curiosity.

It is here regarded as a species distinct from the green abalone of southern California, which it resembles in appearance. The type locality of the species is Gualala, where it was found by the writer in abundance, as also at Abalone Point near Westport. A single specimen was obtained at the Russian River, and one was obtained at Monterey from Mr. Ernest Dalder. Local inhabitants often fail to distinguish it from the young of the red abalone. It reaches, however, a length not greater than five and one-half inches, has five or six open holes (instead of the three or four of the red abalone), and the edges of these holes are not elevated.

In conclusion, it is evident that there is but the one species of importance found in northern California, namely, the red abalone, and all the commercially valuable beds of that are found south of Shelter Cove, over slightly more than half the length of the coast between San Francisco and the Oregon line.

SOME NOTES ON DRY-FLY FISHING. No. 3.

By R. L. M., California.

I do not believe that any one will disagree with the statement that it requires a little more skill to cast and deliver a dry fly properly than is needed to throw a wet fly. Such being the case, what are the principal factors that tend to promote or assist the skill thus demanded? There are several, among which the rod is one of the most important.

It is true that Mr. G. A. B. Dewar ("The Book of the Dry Fly," London, 1897) is rather inclined to underrate the efficacy of first-class equipment. He writes: "It is not the rod so much as the hand which wields it that kills the trout." There is no doubt about the correctness of this statement, and if we were all as skillful as the talented author of this book, no more would need be said on the subject of rods.

But unfortunately very few of us are able to devote more than a much too brief period to the delights of angling, and such being the case it behooves us to take every advantage that we can and to obtain

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everything that will enable us to meet the trout on a more even footing. Therefore we should equip ourselves with the best that modern ingenuity and skill can produce.

Casting or throwing the line out over the water is performed by the action of the rod which gets its initial impetus from the hand of the fisherman.

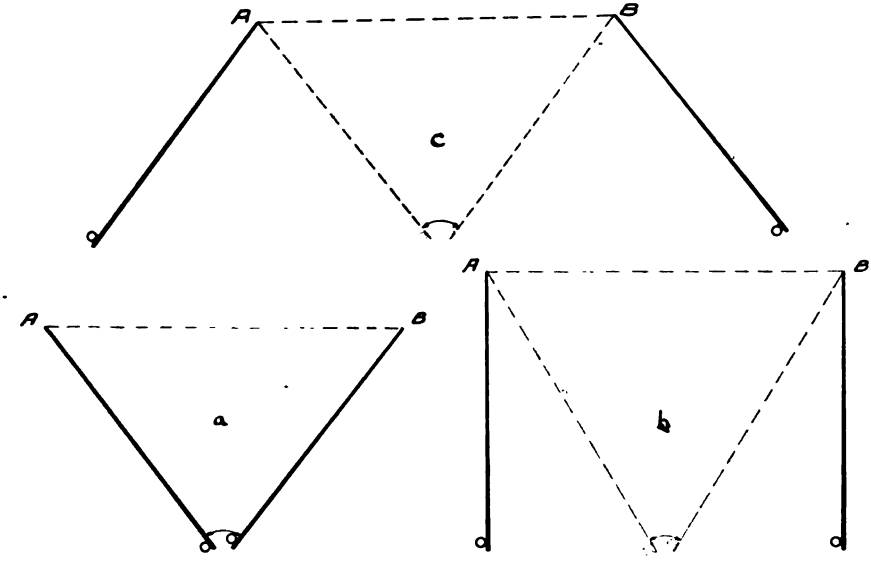

FIG. 19. Diagrams showing the mechanics of fly casting. Although the tip of the rod may be moving at the same speed in a, b, and c, yet in the first instance only would the line be properly cast.

In figure 19 "a" is a diagram meant to represent the rod at two instantaneous moments, viz, at the beginning and the end of the stroke that is made when casting. The tip of the rod, to which the line is connected, moves from A to B. Now if we could move the tip of the rod from A to B with the same speed as in "a," but at the same time while doing this, move the lower point of the rod an equal distance, we should not be able to cast (see "b," figure 19) nearly as long a line as in the first case. And if it were possible to make a motion with the rod similar to that illustrated in "c" of figure 19, we should find that to all intents and purposes we could not cast the line out at all. Yet in all these three cases the tip of the rod (to which the line is attached) would be moving through the air at the same speed. From the foregoing we can deduce that something more than plain motion of the tip of the rod is required in casting, and by regarding "a" again we shall decide that circular, or as it is called in mechanics, an angular motion of the rod is necessary to propel the line. But why does this angular motion produce results when the others fail? The answer is found in "a" of figure 20. The weight of the line and other causes prevent the tip of the rod from moving in synchronism with the lower parts and by the time the end of the stroke has been reached the rod is bent to the fullest extent that is possible for the

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particular weight or length of line being used for that individual case. The position of the rod at the end of the stroke is similar to that of a bent spring, ready to fly back to its unstrained or natural position (i. e., straight).

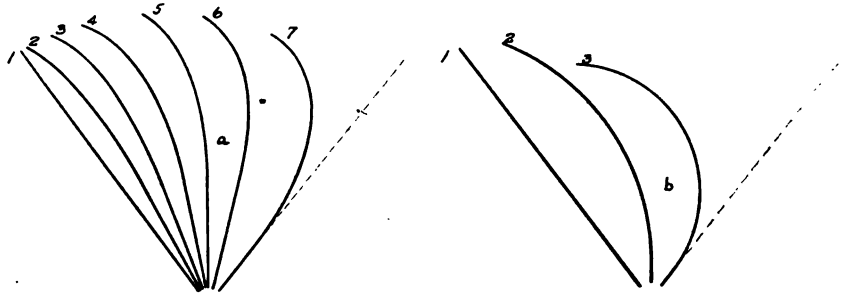

FIG. 20. Successive positions of the fly rod when in action, showing the "snap." It is the recovery of the tip similar to the action of a bent spring that furnishes the necessary impetus to the line. In b the action is too slow to be very effective, due to the bending qualities of the pole.

It is the recovery of this bent spring that furnishes the necessary impetus to the line. An absolutely stiff rod with no bend to it at all would cast a line, but not any length of line to speak of, and it would be a very tiring rod to use. On the other hand a rod with unlimited bending qualities would be too slow in action to be very effective (figure 20 "b").

While we have figure 20 fresh in our memories, and before going on to the other matters, I may remark that this illustration helps to demonstrate the correct manner of making a stroke with a fly rod. The casting stroke (whether backward or forward) should be started slowly, the speed should be continually increased to the end, where a more or less abrupt stop is made. This can only be done if the rod is held tightly or firmly by the hand.

When fishing with a wet fly all that we have to do is to lift the line off the water and cast it back again (figure 21 "a." But when using a dry fly, nine times out of ten we have to dry the fly before returning it to the water. This means that instead of finishing off the forward

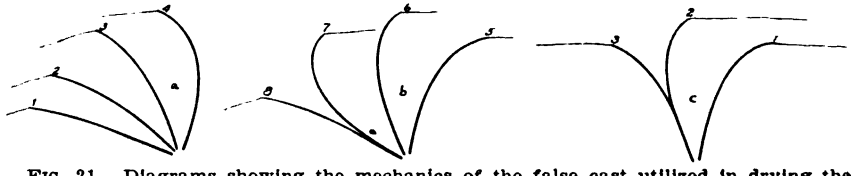

FIG. 21. Diagrams showing the mechanics of the false cast utilized in drying the fly in dry-fly angling. The line is checked before it reaches the water and is returned behind the angler, as in c.

stroke as at "8," figure 21 "a," we must be able to check the line before it reaches the water and return it behind us again. This is what is known as a "false cast" and it may be necessary to make four or five or even more false casts before the fly is dry enough to float once again. Figure 21 "c" illustrates the manner in which the forward stroke is checked when making a false cast.

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It is in the making of these false casts that the virtues of a dry-fly rod become apparent. Quite a number of people think that the only difference between a dry-fly rod and a wet-fly rod is that the former costs more than the latter. Such, however, is not the case by any means. If we want a rod capable of extending a line of any length backwards and forwards in the air, we must have a rod that is able to impart the necessary impetus to the line with the least amount of angular motion possible.

In figure 22 I have shown the difference between the actions of a wet and a dry-fly rod; both are supposed to have an equal length and weight of line attached to them. Now it will be noticed that owing to the greater bending of the wet-fly rod, somewhat more vertical motion is imparted to the line than is the case with the dry-fly rod. In practice (i. e., when fishing) this extra vertical motion would mean that when using a wet-fly rod for dry-fly fishing there would be a probability that the fly, when being dried, would either strike the water in front, or

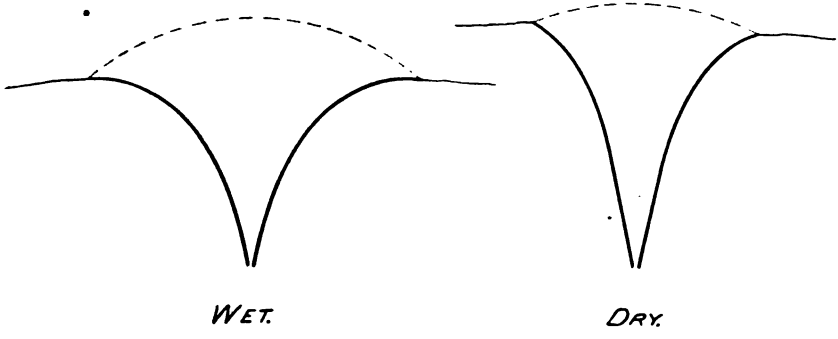

FIG. 22. Diagrams showing the difference in action between the wet and dry-fly rod. Owing to the greater bending of the wet-fly rod a more vertical motion is imparted to the line than is the case with the dry-fly rod.

catch up in the grass behind the angler; whereas, the same length of line could be easily extended in both directions without any danger of such mishaps if a good dry-fly rod was substituted for the wet-fly rod. A dry-fly rod is able to accomplish this because it has more resilience or more snap to its spring than a wet-fly rod has. We may therefore conclude that there is something more than a mere matter of price between a wet and a dry-fly rod. This difference is a structural difference and it consists of making the lower portion of a dry-fly rod much stiffer, i. e., less susceptible to bending than is the case with a wet-fly rod. Then again the middle section should be stronger or stiffer, because in the dry-fly rod the effective bending portion of the rod has to be concentrated within a shorter length than in a wet-fly rod. In both these lower sections the extra or added strength can only be obtained by putting more material, whether cane or wood, into the rod; but when we come to the uppermost portion or the tip, this must be delicate enough to enable us to use the very finest of leaders. It is a fact that a skillful dry-fly man uses finer leaders to land fish of two

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pounds and over than the wet-fly man would care to use for the capture of trout of a quarter of a pound or less.

Now when we carefully consider the necessary qualifications demanded of a dry-fly rod together with the fact that the weight must be kept down to very small proportions, is it any wonder that all this refinement means a somewhat higher price for a dry-fly rod than is asked for the other type of rod? I do not want any one to run away with the idea that I am criticising wet-fly fishing. We are all familiar, at least I presume all my readers are familiar, with wet-fly fishing, and I am using wet-fly methods solely as a basis for comparison. For instance, I might say "John is a very tall man." But that does not give any very exact information; but if I said "John is six inches taller than Henry" it would not necessarily mean that Henry was short (he might be a six-footer); but it would give one a very clear idea as to just exactly how tall John really was, provided of course that he was familiar with Henry.

Each method, i. e., wet or dry, has its own particular field of action, and when fish can be caught with the wet fly it is a needless refinement to attack them with a dry fly; but when once a man has used the dry fly successfully, the tendency is, owing to its wonderful fascination, to continue the use of the dry fly whenever and wherever it is possible.

After having thus, successfully I hope, cleared my skirts of imputation of criticism or aloofness to the wet-fly school, I will continue the original theme.

The best length of rod for all-around dry-fly work will be found to be nine feet and six inches. If, however, most of one's fishing will be done on small streams where long casts are the exception, this length can be reduced by six inches. Do not expect to get a rod of the length first mentioned of featherweight lightness. Somewhere between five and six ounces will be as light a rod as it is possible to get and still maintain the necessary strength required. A nine-foot rod will be possibly one ounce lighter. Our grandsires used much longer and heavier rods. Francis Francis ("A Book on Angling," 1867) mentions four rods ranging in weight from 13 ounces, 4 drams to 14 ounces, 6 drams and in length from 11 feet, 7 inches to 12 feet, 8 inches. He, however, preferred a double-handed rod for his own use and he mentions two favorites, viz, 14 feet, 6 inches and 15 feet, 2 inches long. Lord Grey remarks on the wonderful accuracy with which Mr. Francis cast a small fly with such a large rod (p. 113, "Fly Fishing," London, 1899).

The reason why we are today using such shorter rods than formerly is chiefly owing to the introduction of the six-piece split cane rod.

David Foster ("The Scientific Angler," London, 1882) draws a comparison between the length of rods used in Walton's time and that of those which we use now. Charles Cotton, who wrote the second part of "The Complete Angler," and which was incorporated in the fifth edition (1676), gives five or six *yards* as being the best length for a fly rod which should be "made of fir wood for the two or three lengths nearest the hand and of other wood nearer the top." What that "other wood" was history does not relate.

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Richard Brookes ("The Art of Angling," 1740) says practically nothing about rods, but Thomas Best, who wrote another "Art of Angling," 1787, specifies in his quaint way.

Ash	7 feet
Hazel	7 feet
Yew	2 feet
Whalebone	6 inches
	16 feet 6 inches

In my copy, which is the fifth edition (1802), the same lengths and materials are given but not in this peculiar form, which reminds one of bookkeeping.

The action of these old-time rods was what we should call "very slow." By that I mean that when bent they were very slow in recovering to a straight position. Such being the case, it was necessary to have a long rod if the fly was to be cast any distance at all to speak of. Furthermore the rods could not begin to carry lines of the weight we use today. In Walton's time hair lines were used; during the early part of the nineteenth century a line of mixed hair and silk was the best that could be got, but when solid braided and dressed silk lines came in all the others were relegated to the scrap pile.

In connection with these ancient rods it is extremely interesting to read about the importance these old-time authors placed on the direction of the wind. It was a *sine qua non* with them to have it at their back. Some of them assert that it is impossible to cast against the wind, but even when they do admit that it can be done, they say it is a very difficult feat to accomplish successfully and warn the beginner against trying to do it. Everybody, however, did not use these double-handed rods. Colonel Hawker, in the fewest possible words, votes for a single-handed rod 12 feet 3 inches long; Pulman ("Vade Mecum," 1841) selects a "small rod about 11 feet long" and Francis Popham, who was a member of The Houghton Fishing Club from 1822 to 1858, was noted as having always fished with a single-handed rod.

Up to the time of the introduction of the close-grained tropical or subtropical woods there was no very great progress made in reducing the length of fly rods; but when these woods made their appearance, rod makers were not long in discovering their adaptability for light fly-casting rods. Greenhart, which is the best of all wood for this purpose (Wells "Fly Rods and Fly Tackle," N. Y., 1885), was first mentioned by Stewart in his "Practical Angler" (1857), but he classes it with logwood as being too "brittle and heavy," from which we must conclude that the greenhart he had in mind was not a particularly good specimen.

Mr. W. A. Hunter, manager for C. Farlow & Company, St. James Square, London, W., writes as follows in connection with this wood:

> Greenhart is not mentioned in the official records of the International Exhibition in 1851, and though our firm exhibited rods then, the kind of wood used is not mentioned, and we have no clear records left of that time.

It would seem from the above (taken in conjunction with Stewart's remarks) "that greenhart was first used in the manufacture of fishing rods somewhere about 1850-1857."

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I have quoted Mr. Hunter, because of the fact that Farlow & Company have for years had a very great reputation for their greenhart rods.

A really good greenhart rod is a delightful weapon with which to cast ordinary fishing distances, and some of the men who have used them for a long time can not be induced or made to believe that there is something better than greenhart. The disadvantage of greenhart and all wooden rods is that in our dry climate they may in time become brittle, and when least expected and nearly always at an inopportune time, they have a habit of breaking off short at the junction of the wood and a ferrule. A well-made split cane rod will *never* break if treated as it should be. Whenever a man is seen at the waterside with a broken split cane rod, there are only two possible reasons for the fracture: one is that the rod was a worthless piece of goods to begin with, and the other is that the owner used it for something for which it was never intended.

With the modern six-strip cane rod, owing to its strength and resiliency, it is possible to cast a heavy line, to cast it to distances undreamt of by the earlier generations of anglers, and furthermore to cast across or right into the teeth of any wind short of a hurricane.

The only advantage that a long rod can have over a short one is that more command may be had over a hooked fish; but the rod is *not* the weak link in the chain; the weakest link is the extremity of the fine gut leader; *that* is really the factor that decides how much force we can use, and not the strength or length of the rod.

For comfort in fishing the handle or hand grasp should be made large enough so that no part of the hand is in contact with any metal. Furthermore the diameter of the handle should be such that the muscles of the hand do not become cramped by holding the rod. A rod handle that may seem comfortable enough for wet-fly fishing becomes a veritable torture if used for dry-fly casting owing to the fact that we have to cast so much more frequently. I refer to the false casts necessary to dry the fly. A properly shaped handle does not exactly add to the artistic lines of the lower extremity of the rod, but it *is* an infinitely pleasanter thing to fish with. It is a very great mistake to imagine that a rod can be made *effectively* lighter by paring down the handle. The balance of the rod is obtained by the weight of the reel and frequently, in fact nearly always, the reel and the line on it are not quite heavy enough to give a correct balance. If we take a rod into our hands and, without attaching the reel, we make a few strokes in the air with it, we at once notice that it feels top-heavy, or in other words there is a distinct sensation of weight felt. Now attach a reel or any other form of weight to the reel seat. The heavy feeling that the rod had has now vanished, or else it is not so noticeable. To arrive at a correct balance it is best to attach a moderate weight first and gradually increase it until the top-heavy sensation has completely disappeared. But note this: Sufficient weight must not be added so as to induce a too lively feel to the rod. If this is done the rod will be "over-balanced"

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and although the effort required in casting will be reduced to a minimum, the accuracy and control of the line will be to a great extent lost.

The fully equipped rod should balance at a point about three to five inches above the upper end of the handle (or hand grasp). There is no rule or formula by which this point can be found. The only satisfactory way is by the trial of various weights as already explained. When the correct weight has been found, deduct the weight of the reel and line from this, and make up the remainder by an equal weight of soft lead wire, which can be wound on to the empty spool of the reel before the line is wound on. The best type of reel to use is a contracted single action click (adjustable) one. With such a reel the line can be wound in as fast as with a multiplier; the spool is short or narrow but the diameter is large. The best that have been procurable up to the present have been the best grade of English made reels (See "Saturday Evening Post," August 9, 1919; "Very Efficient" Camp in "Fishing with Floating Flies," 1916; Geo. P. Holden "Stream Craft," 1919, says they "are exquisite"), but one of the leading American reel companies will shortly place a first class fly reel on the market.

Charles Zibeon Southand, in "Trout Fly-Fishing in America," 1914, gives a table of lengths and weights of rods and the proper weight of reel to balance them. He bases his table on the supposition that the reel should weigh half again as much as the rod. Using this table as a starting point a four-ounce rod would call for a six-ounce reel. A 3½-inch reel will weigh about five ounces, which gives us one ounce of margin for the line. If this is not enough a slightly smaller reel weighing less could be used. However, it will frequently be found that the very light rods need a lot of counterweight to properly balance them.

A 9½-foot, 6-ounce rod that I use a great deal for dry-fly fishing is perfectly balanced by a total of 9 ounces made up of reel, line and lead wire.

A tapered oil-dressed silk line is the only one to consider in connection with this kind of fly-fishing. These lines are prepared by soaking them in pure boiled, or cold pressed, linseed oil. Mr. Martin E. Mosely, one authority, advocates the former; and a description of his method will be found in Halford's "Dry-Fly Man's Handbook." A copy of this (i. e., the line dressing) appeared in "The American Angler," December, 1918, under the heading "Dress Your Own Line." Another great authority on this subject, viz, Mr. W. D. Goggeshall (an American and past president of The Fly-Fishers Club, London), writes in a recent issue of "The Fishing Gazette":

> Never use air pump; always put line in *hot* oil; heat oil so hot that it will burn your finger, put line in oil, keeping heat up until air bubbles seem to rise; take off the fire and allow line to cool in oil and hang line up to dry. Better to *stretch* line first, though. To get a *perfect* surface apply cold oil when line is stretched and dried. Be sure that *every* coat is *thoroughly* dry before second coats are applied. Rub down smooth and polish with soft rag and talc powder.

Mr. Perry D. Frazier, of Ridgewood, N. J., who is the author of one or two books on angling matters, manufactures oil dressed lines that compare very favorably with the best imported article.

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Different methods are used for gauging these tapered lines. Some manufacturers call them "No. 1, 2, 3," etc.; others use the alphabet and specify "D, E, F," etc.; consequently unless we know the *weight* of the line it is not much use saying that such and such a rod should have an "F" or "E" line, as the case may be. The line should fit the rod. By this I mean that the line should be sufficiently heavy to fully develop the casting power of the rod. If the line is not of sufficient weight when the casting stroke is made the rod will not be bent far enough to fully develop its spring (see figure 20) and it will take considerably more effort to cast the line than would be necessary if the proper size or weight of line was used. On the other hand, a line that is too heavy for the rod will in a very short time completely ruin it.

For ordinary occasions, i. e., when the wind is not too strong, a 9-foot tapered leader is advisable. It should be tapered from fairly heavy gut at the upper end down to the "finest undrawn" at the lower extremity. Finest undrawn gut is approximately the same sixe as X drawn gut; but the undrawn gut is about 15 per cent stronger than drawn gut of equal diameter. These undrawn gut leaders are very scarce and extremely hard to get hold of; consequently most of us will have to be content with leaders whose fine points are made of drawn gut. Drawn gut is listed as X, XX, XXX, etc., but anything less than XXX is rather too fine for the sort of fish we hope to catch. I might mention, however, that trout of over five pounds have been caught on XXX leaders.

When a strong wind is blowing the length of the leader should be reduced to 7½ or even 6 feet, but do not make this reduction by cutting off from one or other end of the leader. Get these short leaders made up just the same as the longer ones, i. e., fully tapered from end to end. I do not believe there is any economy in buying gut in hanks and making up one's own leaders. To make up a good tapered leader several hanks of gut would be required.

There are 100 strands in each hank and if they were all made up into leaders we should probably have about 70 or 80 leaders on hand. Gut does not improve with age; consequently long before we got to the end of our leaders we should find that they were beginning to deteriorate and in all probability the last few dozen would have to be thrown away, thus wiping out at once any paper profit that might have been theoretically possible. Some people will tell you that they always make up their own leaders and that bought leaders are no good. There is but one answer to this and it is: Where did they buy these poor leaders? If leaders are obtained from reputable houses and a good price is paid for them they will be all that any one can desire and much better than 99 per cent of us could make for ourselves. I always aim to use up my leaders every season and not to carry any over to the next; then I know that the leaders I am using are the best that can be got and are not weakened in the least by age. There are several substitutes for gut. They generally have queer sounding names and are not as strong as gut of equal diameter. They are more opaque than gut, and when they get wet they become so soft and limp that they do not lay the fly out over

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the water properly; therefore, they are not to be thought of in connection with dry-fly fishing.

There are several other appliances peculiar to dry-fly fishing and I will mention them briefly. The first is the "line greaser" which is a little folded leather pad which has several sheets or folds of cloth inside. These are liberally doped with some grease, such as red deer fat, mucilin, vaseline, or mutton fat. Before commencing to fish the line (not the leader) is rubbed down with the greaser in order that when it is cast it will float on top of the water. Then there is the oiling device. This may be a small atomizer, or a little bottle with a small brush, or a small metal box with some felt pads well soaked with the oil used to assist the fly in floating. Oil is not necessary to make the fly float. Before it was used flies were made to float and some men still refuse to use it; but all said and done, oil is a wonderful help. When it is used a fly will never become quite as wet as it will if it has not been annointed, and furthermore a wet fly that has been oiled can be dried much quicker than an unoiled fly. The dry-flies are kept in a box and not in a book, because they should not be crushed. There are numerous kinds of fly boxes on the market and I hope to give illustrations of several of them in one of the future series of these notes.

A landing net is one thing that can not be dispensed with. It should be large and have a handle of fair length. There are a number of folding nets on the market. Some are too small for anything but very little fish. A span of sixteen inches across the mouth of the net is not too much, and the net itself should be at least twenty inches deep. It is much better to have a landing net of the large size than to have one that is too small. Imagine the feelings of a fisherman with a five-pound trout ready to land, and a net so small that it would be difficult to lift out the fish with it even if the fish were dead. The best thing to do in this case is to throw the net away and pull out a handkerchief and, taking this in your hand, lift out the fish; but be quite sure the fish is all in before you try to do so.

And finally there is the creel or basket in which to put the fish we expect to catch. Get a good-sized one, one that will take a two-pound trout without bending the fish. Above all things get one that is not easily opened, for two reasons: if it opens easily it may act without your knowledge and dump some of your fish on the scenery; and if it is easily opened some inquisite stranger may casually open it when there are no fish inside for the I. S. to admire and for the owner to feel proud of.

Having briefly described the implements used in the art, I propose to give a demonstration of their use in the next issue of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME, which will be before the public just about the beginning of the vacation season.

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THE MULLET FISHERIES OF SALTON SEA.

By Will F. Thompson and Harold C. Bryant.

The Salton Sea is, in reality, a portion of the Gulf of California, cut off by the enlargement of the delta of the Colorado River. It has been, consequently, evaporated to relatively high salinity during each of the long periods when the Colorado River emptied its waters into the gulf. Geologists believe, in fact, that the river has periodically emptied its flood in to the Salton Sea, raising its level, and extending its area, just as it did during 1906. At present the Colorado is prevented from doing this by the dikes along its banks, built in order that the Imperial Valley may be safe, and that it may be irrigated, but the irrigating canals carry a certain amount of waste water into the sea. There are, in addition, fresh water springs, notably one called Fish Spring, which pour considerable amounts of fresh water into the sea.

Little is known about the fisheries of the Salton Sea before the last break in the jetties of the Colorado River. In 1905 the water of the Colorado River poured down what are now known as the New and Alamo rivers in a great flood which carried 160,000,000 cubic feet of water into the sea daily. The result was a great enlargement of the sea and the extensive freshening of its waters. The extension of the sea buried the Southern Pacific lines along its shores, covered the adjacent territory which at that time was beginning to be placed under cultivation, and threatened great financial loss to the Southern Pacific Company, which owned alternate sections of land throughout the territory. In 1906 the break was closed by the Southern Pacific Company, after a spectacular struggle. It was through this break that the fishes now, or recently, present, entered the Salton Sea.

During the earlier portion of the period since 1906, considerable numbers of "carp," if the indentification of others than scientists be trusted, were to be found in the sea, and some eight years ago a promoter started a company with the idea of using these carp, and other fresh water fish, for oil and fertilizer. Having built the proper buildings, installed machinery and launched boats in the sea, the company was unable to operate because it was unable to find sufficient fish. At this time, Captain Chas. Davis, who came originally from New England and was familiar with fisheries of all sorts from an extensive experience on all our coasts, went to Salton Sea to investigate the likelihood of extensive fisheries being built up. His report was adverse. The company for some time endeavored vainly to dispose of the equipment, but was unable to until they accepted Davis' offer of $500. The latter then scrapped all the machinery, turned the buildings into a pleasure resort for the people of the valley, and took up land in the vicinity when the sea had subsided sufficiently. The buildings are now more than a mile from the sea.

However, five years ago, in 1915, mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) began to appear in the sea, and Davis placed weirs of wire netting along the shallow shores of the sea to impound them. He was able to obtain a

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large amount of fish at times, but could not develop a market for them at the time, even in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Attempts to sell the fish in the Imperial Valley were fruitless, the fish being named "cow-carp" and regarded as very poor. These attempts, however, laid the foundation for a later very good demand. The approach to Captain Davis' land being cut off by the overflow from irrigation ditches, he was prevented from pursuing the fishery until the last year, but certain Japanese and Greeks did catch considerable quantities, using much of the mullet for oil, and shipping some to market. The Greeks still operate. In the last year Captain Davis has again begun shipping mullet, catching them by means of halibut trammel nets. The catches during the winter months by two men using eight trammel nets of thirty fathoms length each, comprise but 250 or 300 pounds daily, taken in the vicinity of the mouths of the rivers, in shallow water. These fish are landed and shipped from Niland to Los Angeles or San Francisco. Captain Davis receives 15 cents per pound for the fish at the station.

FIG. 23. Captain Charles Davis, a mullet fisherman of the Salton Sea, Imperial County, California. Photograph by H. C. Bryant.

The recession of the sea has made considerable trouble so far as landing the catch is concerned. As the fall is only about four feet per mile, there are great flats covered with water only six or eight inches deep, in which a boat can not easily be moved. Captain Davis has in

FIG. 24. The mullet (*Mugil cephalus*), a desirable food fish now found in numbers in Salton Sea, Imperial County, California. Photographed by H. C. Bryant.

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a measure overcome the difficulty by making a shallow canal, up which his boat can be pulled part way by means of a picket line and the remainder of the way can be pulled with a tow line.

According to Captain Davis mullet are found in different locations in the sea at different seasons. During part of the year they are found in great numbers on the west shore of the sea in grass which grows profusely there and upon which they feed, being vegetarians. On a visit to Bird Islands, on the west shore of the sea, on December 18, 1919, there was no evidence of mullet, and yet at times large numbers are said to be caught in this vicinity.

The fish are at present of very large size indeed, being between two and two and one-half feet in length. The flesh is oily in the extreme, yielding fully a quart of clear oil to the ten pounds of fish. This oil, of a delicate flavor, renders the canned mullet a delicacy, and samples put up by a Los Angeles firm were found to be very palatable. The fact that the fish is delicious should have been expected because of the very high esteem in which it has been held from ancient times, domesticated mullet being known in Europe since the times of the Romans. The species is found all along our coasts, from Monterey southward, and occasional schools are taken in every sheltered lagoon or bay, as well as occasionally up the rivers in what is really entirely fresh water. Its occurrence in the Colorado River is not highly remarkable, and its transference to the Salton Sea would have been expected by anyone familiar with its habits.

FIG. 25. Mullet fisherman with part of his catch. Photograph by H. C. Bryant, December 19, 1919.

There is also present in the Salton Sea a species of top-minnow *Cyprinodon macularius,* which is found in the streams and springs of the desert throughout Southern California and parts of Mexico. They are said to be abundant in the sea at times, and specimens were obtained for us from there and from Fish Spring by Captain Davis.

It is, indeed, very questionable whether the mullet will exist for any length of time. The carp, and other fresh-water fish in the sea, died some years ago, according to Captain Davis' recollection, after a heavy blow which mixed the waters, drifting them ashore in great quantities. During the past two years there have been statements made to the effect that the mullet also have been found on certain shores of the lake in great quantity, apparently dead from poisonous waters. It is certain, moreover, that the sea has been steadily falling, at the rate of 4½ feet yearly, and as the sea is everywhere shallow (perhaps 25 or 30 feet

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deep) it is plain that it can not last long at such a rate of fall. Analysis of the water at a distance from river mouths shows it to be three or four times the salinity of ocean water. The water, moreover, is not merely saline. If such were the case, it is probable that the mullet, a salt water fish, would survive indefinitely. But as a matter of fact the water is fed from alkaline springs, and has in the past been alkaline in nature, so that the water must become poisonous rather than merely salty. Regarding this, however, there is some question until chemists are able to analyze fair samples taken annually, but the probability is very great that the mullet will be unable to exist.

The area near the center of the mullet fisheries should prove of great interest to the geologist. Mullet Island is a typical volcanic plug. At the edge of the island a number of hot springs boil out, leaving chemical deposits of several colors, similar to those of Yellowstone National Park. Captain Davis, by impounding the waters of these springs, has succeeded in obtaining two different colored "paints," and in a third reservoir a pure deposit of rock salt Near the island are some mud volcanoes the cones of which are from five to eight feet in height. A spring in this vicinity also is geyserlike in action, boiling out with considerable velocity periodically. Because of these natural phenomena the island is visited by large numbers of people from the Imperial Valley every week.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

APRIL 19, 1920.

"There must be a balance between the agencies of destruction and those of conservation. When there is nothing left to conserve then we must give up all of our ideas of sport."—Emerson Hough.

ADDITIONAL GAME SANCTUARIES.

Through an oversight the list of California's game sanctuaries as given in the January number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME lacks the following:

Name	County	Area	Established
4F	Los Angeles and Kern	23,040	1919
1M	Kern	80,640	1919
3E	Santa Clara	3,840	1919

This adds a total of 107,520 acres which should have been included in the statement, making a total in all of 3,107,520 acres. Sanctuary 4F was set aside especially to protect the few antelope which may still exist in the eastern end of what is known as "Antelope Valley," in northern Los Angeles County.

THE GAME WARDEN AT WORK.

The scene is laid in one of the small national parks in the Southern Sierras. A state game warden, on the look out for violators, is camped within the park for the night. A shot is heard at dusk. The warden gets up early the next morning and goes to the spot from which the shot was heard and there discovers blood upon the ground. A little search also discloses the entrails, head and skin of a doe. The warden hides the head and hide and makes his way to the camp of some woodsmen just outside of the park. A man found at the camp is asked if he has any deer meat. He replies "No." The warden notes on the back of the woodsman's hunting coat a large patch of blood, apparently made by carrying a deer into camp. When questioned the woodsman states that he does not know what caused the spot of blood. The warden asks permission to enter the cabin and make a search and is given this permission. On entering the cabin the warden discovers a flour sack filled with fresh venison. The woodsman then admits that his brother has killed a deer. He is then asked if the deer was killed within the national park and is told that it was not. The game warden then leads the woodsman to the spot where he had hidden the head and hide of the doe and the woodsman is made to admit the fact that the doe had been killed within the national park. The outcome, of course, is a heavy fine to the violator.

In California game wardens can tell you many such stories as the above. The violator is nearly always a man ready to perjure himself and do anything to avoid a court sentence. Talk to a game warden and you will soon discover that it is not the detective alone who must be clever in sleuthing and in the gathering of reliable evidence, for the game warden must not only act as police and prosecutor, but he must also be a clever detective, if he is to bring violators to justice.

DRY YEARS INJURE ANGLING PROSPECTS.

Dry years are coming to be viewed with grave apprehension by the angler, for he knows that his sport is always curtailed by a lack of water in the streams and lakes. Planting activities have been coming to naught as a result of the lack of water. In many streams and lakes where large numbers of fish have been planted, and where a noticeable increase has taken place, there has been a depletion in the abundance of fish due to drought. Two power reservoirs in the Southern Sierras, Huntington Lake and Shaver Lake, although heavily stocked in the past few years, will furnish but poor angling the coming season because of the fact that thousands of fish have died

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owing to the present low water and consequent poor food supply. Many streams when they again run bank full will contain but a small proportion of their former stock of fish. Every angler should look with favor on future storage reservoir projects, for in an increase of such reservoirs lies a partial solution of the problem which presents itself with each dry year and its consequent low water.

GOVERNMENT AND FISH AND GAME COMMISSION INAUGURATE FREE NATURE GUIDE SERVICE.

So successful was the summer resort work inaugurated by the California Fish and Game Commission at the Tahoe resorts last summer, that it drew the attention of the federal government, with the result that a similar nature guide service will be installed in the Yosemite Valley the coming summer. The Superintendent of National Parks has secured the cooperation of the Fish and Game Commission to the extent of the commission's furnishing Dr. H. C. Bryant, who instituted the work at the Tahoe resorts, for the work in Yosemite. Dr. Bryant will be assisted by Dr. Loye Holmes Miller, of the Southern Branch of the University of California.

Evening lectures dealing with wild life will be given at the various camps and trips afield will be conducted, including special trips for children. Office hours are to be arranged so that questions regarding natural history can be answered. This summer resort work offers a splendid opportunity for the Fish and Game Commission to employ the educational method in making conservationists out of summer vacationists. In no other way could the commission come in touch with so large a number of people in so short a period of time.

IN MEMORIAM.

CHESTER A. SCROGGS.

We regret to announce the death of Deputy Chester A. Scroggs, whose death occurred January 29, 1920, after a short illness at his home in Loomis, Placer County.

Deputy Scroggs was appointed special deputy June 19, 1908, and regular deputy September 1, 1911. He was attached to the Sacramento Division, and for three years up to the time of his death was in charge of the launch patrol of the district. By his activity and thoroughness he developed this arm of the service up to its present stage of efficiency.

Chester Scroggs was utterly fearless and resolute in the discharge of his duty. He believed the fish and game laws were placed on the statute books to be enforced. There was no obstacle or hindrance too great to deter him from his duty as he understood it. Nothing could deviate him from his purpose. If he had a fault it was over-zealousness—if that can be termed a fault. He had no censure for any but the slacker of duty. Still he was fair and conscientious in his dealings with violators with whom he came in contact. They both feared and respected him.

At the time of his death he was forty years of age. He is survived by a widow and two small children, a boy and a girl, also a sister. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Order of Elks.

He is mourned by his many friends in private life and his brother workers on the Fish and Game Commission.

FOREST NESBITT.

Deputy Fish and Game Commissioner Forest Nesbitt died of pneumonia at his home in Salinas, Friday, March 5, 1920, after only a few days illness following a severe cold contracted while on patrol duty.

Mr. Nesbitt was appointed Deputy Fish and Game Commissioner, December 1, 1917, after qualifying by civil service examination. During his time of service, he proved his fitness for the trust that was placed in him. His training under his father, who has been sheriff of Monterey County for many years, gave him previous experience that was of the greatest value. In every prosecution his fairness was apparent. No one was taken into court unless their guilt was certain. Believing in the strict enforcement of the laws protecting wild life, his influence brought about a better compliance with the law in every section to which his work took him.

To the father, mother and wife and others that were near and dear to him, the Commissioners and fellow-employees extend their heartfelt sympathy.

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FOREST OFFICERS' REPORTS.

For several years past the Forest Service has, through the medium of annual reports from each supervisor, furnished valuable information as to the distribution and past and present status of fish and game. During the coming year forest officers are to furnish information according to the following outline recently submitted to them. As can be seen the outline emphasizes knowledge as to distribution and life history of the more notable species.

LIFE HISTORY.

A. Big Game.

Moose, elk, antelope, mountain sheep, white-tailed deer, black-tailed deer, black and brown bear, silver tip or grizzly bear.

Mating and breeding habits, number and care of young, food and range at various seasons of the year, condition and abundance, diseases and effect of climatic conditions, rutting season, when young are born, when are horns shed, any other information bearing upon the desirability of the species or its adaptability for extension work.

B. Game Birds.

Ducks and geese and other waterfowl, if any; grouse, give exact species found; quail, partridge, pheasants, ptarmigan, etc. Anything relative to their breeding and nesting season and habits. When eggs are laid and number of young, abundance or scarcity.

C. Small Game.

Rabbits, tree squirrels. Their relation to forestry and value as game animals, abundance, or scarcity, need for protection, if any.

D. Fur Bearing Animals.

Species found in locality, breeding habits, season when fur is prime and value. Any available information as to the extent of the local trapping industry. Special attention to beavers.

E. Insectivorous and Song Birds.

List various species found together with all interesting information at hand concerning life history and habits.

F. Predatory Animals.

Wolves, coyotes, mountain lions, foxes (various species found), wild cats, lynxes, etc. Specific cases of loss by predatory animals.

Damage done by these species to game. Abundance or scarcity. Range and food at various seasons. Any useful information in exterminating them not hitherto reported.

(Note—Several of the species listed may also be discussed under Fur Bearing Animals.)

G. Predatory Birds.

Eagles, hawks, etc., various species found. Amount of damage they do to game animals and birds. Life history and habits.

H. Fish.

Trout—rainbow, eastern brook, native and others. Bass—small and large mouth. Other game fish—abundance or scarcity of species, spawning season, migration, character of water best adapted to each, use of fish ladders and screens. Information as to any successful device for screening headgates or ditches is especially desired.

Streams needing stocking; number of fish needed for each, with specific shipping instructions. Cost to Forest Service, amount of cooperation, etc.

DISTRIBUTION.

In submitting the above report, information which will extend the known ranges of the following mammals and birds is very much desired. Below you will find a list giving you a brief summary of the range of each species. If you locate definite records of the occurrence of any of these birds or mammals outside of the limits given, do not fail to submit evidence. The best evidence is a specimen. Ship specimens direct to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, by express, carefully marked "specimens for scientific purposes." We are especially anxious to get specimens of deer taken in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties and throughout the Sierras to outline more accurately the range of various species. Specimens should be taken during the open seasons. Permits will be issued on application for protected species.

White-tailed Deer.

Range—Said to have formerly occurred in extreme Eastern and Northeastern California, chiefly in the Modoc region. Many accounts by hunters, but no verified or recent report.

Columbian Black-tailed Deer.

Range—Northwest coast region, chiefly in the Transition (yellow pine belt) and Boreal (Lodgepole pine belt upward) zones; east throughout the inner coast ranges to the Sacramento Valley, and at the north to and including Mount Shasta and near vicinity; south to the north side of San Francisco Bay.

Southern Black-tailed Deer.

Range—Transition and high Upper Sonoran (chapparal belt) zones south

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from San Francisco Bay through the Santa Cruz district, at least into Monterey and San Benito counties.

Rocky Mountain Mule Deer.

Range—Eastern California, including main Sierra Nevada south into Kern County and north to vicinity of Mount Lassen, thence northeast through the Modoc region. Western limit at extreme north, Mount Shasta (Rowley, M. S.). Not in the desert ranges east of Owens Valley except in winter. Occurs in summer on the high Sierras up to timberline; in winter most numerous in the foothills.

California Mule Deer.

Range—Upper Sonoran and Transition zones of Southern California west of the desert proper, from the Mexican line northwest through the San Diegan district at least to San Luis Obispo County, and east through the Tejon region to the Tehachapi Mountains.

Desert Mule Deer.

Range—Imperial Valley.

Northwestern Timber Wolf.

Range—Northern California, and south along the Sierra Nevada. Now rare or extinct. The number of records (e. g., Price, Zoe, 4, 1894, p. 331) and reports from the region specified carries conviction that a wolf of some form has occurred as above indicated. But lack of specimens brings doubt as to the race represented.

Sierra Nevada Wolverine.

Range—Boreal zone on the Sierra Nevada, from the vicinity of Mount Shasta, south through Lake Tahoe region to Monache Meadows, Tulare County.

Yellow-haired Porcupine.

Range—High Transition (yellow pine belt) and Boreal (Lodgepole pine belt upward) zones along the Sierra Nevada, from Mount Shasta to the vicinity of Mount Whitney.

Sierra Grouse.

Range—Common resident of coniferous timber in the upper Transition and Canadian zones of northern California from Mount Shasta south along the inner coast ranges at least to Mount Sanhedrin, and along the Sierra Nevada south through the Mount Whitney region to the Piute Mountains, Kern County. Also on the Warner Mountains of Modoc County, on the White Mountains, Mono County, and on Mount Pinos, Ventura County.

RECORD ANY RECENT OCCURRENCE OF:

Grizzly Bear.

Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse.

Former range—Occurred formerly as a fairly common resident on the Transition plains of the Modoc region; Canoe Creek, 50 miles northeast of Fort Reading, and upper Pit River; Camp Bidwell. No information is at hand confirming its existence within the state at the present time.

Sandhill Crane.

(Especially record of nesting.)

Range—Fairly common summer visitant to the northward interiorly; at least a few winter in the San Joaquin Valley. Recorded as breeding in the northeastern corner of the state; summer records also from Alpine Meadows of the Northern Sierras (several records), and from the San Joaquin Valley south to the Tulare Lake region.

Breeding of ducks, geese and jacksnipe in the Sierra region.

A BILL TO ESTABLISH GAME SANCTUARIES IN NATIONAL FORESTS.

With the view that certain areas within the national forests may be set apart as game sanctuaries, a bill was introduced in the United States Senate on June 21, 1919, by Senator Nelson, looking toward the dedication of more of the national lands to conservation purposes. The national parks and monuments have for some time been set apart as game refuges, and the bill in question would also set apart sections of the national forests to the preservation of our wild life. This bill covers practically the same points as a bill previously introduced by Senator Chamberlain, but which never came to a vote by the Senate. The Nelson bill covers the following propositions:

Section 1. A federal law empowering the secretary of agriculture to select areas in national forests suitable for game sanctuaries; these sanctuaries to be established by presidential proclamation but with the approval of the governor of each state; and to be so located that they shall not prevent the allowing of grazing or other uses thereof as are in conformity with the laws applicable to national forests.

Sec. 2. Prohibiting the hunting or other destruction of game within such sanctuaries, except as otherwise in the act provided, and providing penalties for the violation of such provision.

Sec. 3. Administration of the provisions of the act to be vested in the secretary of agriculture, with power to regulate the killing of predatory animals.

Sec. 4. Providing for the establishment by the secretary of agriculture of boundaries and for postings showing the location thereof and warning the public of the prohibition of hunting therein.

Sec. 5. Setting forth the purposes of the act: That it is expedient to establish a large number of sanctuaries of medium

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size rather than a few large preserves, the ideal condition to be a chain of sanctuaries, with the view of providing breeding places for game which will spread over adjacent and intervening territory, where it will be subject to the regular open season provided by law.

There is crying need for such a law as this, for millions of acres of some of our national forests are utterly destitute of game, and great opportunities to create a vast annual supply of big game are being wasted by lack of intelligent and resolute action. It is to be sincerely hoped that this measure will not, like the Chamberlain bill, be allowed to slumber in the archives of Congress, but that some definite step will be taken.

SAN DIEGO TO MAKE CLEAN SWEEP OF THE ENGLISH SPARROW.

The city of San Diego resolved that she would rid herself of the English sparrow. So in 1916 a city ordinance was passed providing for ways and means for the extermination of this pest and appropriating the sum of $125 for such purpose. The task of destroying sparrows inside the city limits was delegated to one man, and ever since the ordinance became effective he has been on the job. From the first the campaign has been successful and the sparrow pest is now not only under control, but this spring San Diego expects to free herself entirely of the sparrow. The city this year is allowing ten cents each for every sparrow killed, up to $50, and in addition the Chamber of Commerce is also offering ten cents each up to $30. The record for this year shows 250 dead birds, and it is estimated that there still remains about 100 sparrows in the city. It is expected that as soon as the mating season is well under way and the sparrows begin nesting that a clean sweep can be made of all these remaining birds.

Other cities in the state might well follow the example set by San Diego. Even in cities where sparrows are far more numerous the appropriation of a small sum of money and the appointment of an energetic and ingenious man to carry on the work of destruction will lead to a near solution of the sparrow problem. A city that can advertise itself with the slogan "No house sparrows here" adds to its reputation—WEBB TOMS.

FISH PACK, 1919.

In this issue is given a complete report of the canned, cured and manufactured fishery products of the state for the year 1919 (see p. 96). Through the cooperation of the packers throughout the state it has been possible to get out the annual pack more promptly as well as more accurately and in greater detail than ever before.

The total case pack of canned goods in 1919 was a trifle over 42,000 cases less than in 1918, while the estimated value of the 1919 pack is nearly $3,000,000 greater than estimated value of the 1918 pack.

During 1919 the tuna, albacore and skipjack pack was larger than in the previous year, and while the actual case pack of sardines for 1919 was less than for 1918, the pack was of a better quality. During 1919 there were only 41,373 round cans of sardines packed as compared to 420,905 cases of round cans for the year previous.

The pack of mild cured salmon for 1919 was nearly double that of the previous year. The production of meal and oil also shows a large increase. At the close of 1919 we find an increase of twelve plants, 203 employees and over $2,000,000 in valuation of plants, which shows the healthy growth of the fish packing industry of California.—S. H. D.

SPORTSMEN LAND MANY BIG FISH.

The total number of blue-fin and yellow-fin tuna taken at Catalina Island during 1919 was 911, of which 36 weighed over 100 pounds each. The total number of marlin swordfish was 114. No broadbill swordfish were captured, but a number of anglers reported unsuccessful battles with them. The prize for the world's tuna taken on light tackle went to Commodore James W. Jump, the fish caught weighing 145½ pounds. The usual awards have been made by the Tuna Club, prizes now being offered for such other game fish as swordfish, white sea bass, bonito and dolphin.

FOREST OFFICERS TO ACT AS GAME WARDENS.

By an agreement recently signed by the Executive Officer of the California Fish and Game Commission and the United

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States Forest Service, forest rangers will act as fish and game wardens and deputy fish and game commissioners as forest firewardens. According to the terms of the agreement forest officers will enforce fish and game laws, make arrests, submit reports and issue hunting and fishing licenses. The force of game wardens will therefore be greatly augmented and better enforcement of the fish and game laws is a certainty. The news that forest officers will handle hunting and fishing licenses will be received with pleasure by sportsmen because of the added convenience. The help of the Forest Service in better posting state game refuges will be another outcome of the cooperation planned. In return for the services of the forestry men, the game wardens of the state will be deputized as forest firewardens and will help in protecting the forests and in developing the right public attitude toward the laws and regulations of the national forests. There is to be a continuance of the annual reports on game conditions in the forests furnished by the District Forester.

This cooperation, which has been carefully worked out between the United States Forest Service and the Fish and Game Commission, will make violation of the fish and game laws doubly difficult and will do much to develop a sentiment favoring game conservation. There follows the agreement in full:

AGREEMENT.

In order to secure closer cooperation with the Fish and Game Commission, the following informal agreement has been executed:

Whereas, the wild life on the national forests of California is a product of the forest and a great resource, which adds materially to enjoyment of the national forests by the public, as well as of great economic value, its protection and perpetuation becomes a public necessity; and

Whereas, the Fish and Game Commission of California is the duly authorized agent for the State of California for the protection and perpetuation of this resource, and the District Forester of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, for the Department; now, therefore

In order to coordinate the work of these departments in the protection of game, fish, birds, and forests of California, Paul G. Redington, District Forester, for and on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, and Carl Westerfeld, Executive Officer of the Fish and Game Commission of California, for and on behalf of the State of California, do agree as follows:

1. That under the state laws no differentiation can be made between violators of the law. The law, therefore, should be enforced equally as to all violators.

2. The forest officers, because of their familiarity with the areas on which a large proportion of the wild life in the state exists, can and should assist, by their own personal actions and attitude, in securing the proper respect and enforcement of the state game laws. All forest officers who, in the judgment of the District Forester, can, because of the character of their work, be of assistance in the enforcement of the state fish and game laws, will be appointed by the Fish and Game Commission of California as deputy state game wardens. All forest officers so appointed shall assume the following prescribed duties:

(*a*) Pay strict attention to the enforcement of the state fish and game laws, and by personal actions and attitude assist in creating the right public attitude and sentiment toward the protection of fish and game within the boundaries of national forests;

(*b*) Report all cases of violations of the fish and game laws to the officer's immediate supervisor, who will in turn report the violation to the Fish and Game Commission of California, San Francisco, California;

(*c*) Make arrests for violations of the fish and game laws committed within the boundaries of the national forests;

(*d*) Furnish all information available which will assist officers of the state in apprehending or prosecuting violators of the fish and game laws, whether such violation was committed within or outside the national forests;

(*e*) Submit such reports as may be called for by the District Forester;

(*f*) Report misconduct or dereliction of duty on the part of any state official employed in the enforcement of the state fish and game laws;

(*g*) Issue hunting and fishing licenses, receiving therefor the commission allowed by law.

3. The District Forester will cause an annual report to be submitted to the Fish and Game Commission which shall contain complete information as to the present condition of wild life in the national forests, and plans for the protection and development of fish and game therein. He will recommend the establishment of such game refuges as seem necessary, the boundaries of which shall not be changed without his approval.

4. The Fish and Game Commission of California will elect a representative of its commission to act on behalf of the Commission with the District Forester on all matters pertaining to fish and game work on the national forests of California.

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5. The duly authorized agent of the Commission shall have power to act upon all reports and requests from the District Forester, furnish upon requisition the number of fish plants necessary to stock streams within the national forests, provide proper facilities for transport to places of destination, and properly supervise shipment from hatchery to nearest railroad point; and shall issue proper instructions to forest officers designated to transport fish from railroad point to streams, giving at least two weeks' advance notice of date of arrival.

6. Upon recommendations from the District Forester, deputy game wardens will be appointed state fire wardens, and the Commission or its duly authorized agent will instruct such wardens to cooperate with the Forest Service in the suppression and prevention of forest fires.

7. All deputy game wardens will pay strict attention to the enforcement of state fire laws, familiarize themselves with the regulations governing the use of the national forests, and by personal actions and attitude assist in creating the right public attitude and sentiment toward these laws and regulations.

8. Deputy state game wardens will report, through the State Fish and Game Commission, any misconduct of forest officers on the dereliction of duties in the enforcement of fish and game laws.

9. The Fish and Game Commission will provide the necessary signs, labor, and material, for the proper posting and supervision of existing state game refuges or those which may hereafter be established within or adjoining the national forests.

10. Necessary expenses of forest officers in the investigation and prosecution of fish and game violations will be paid by the Fish and Game Commission upon properly certified accounts on forms furnished by the Commission.

11. Amendments to this agreement may be proposed by either party upon giving thirty days' notice to the other. Amendments shall become operative immediately after they have been adopted by both parties.

12. It is mutually understood and agreed that this agreement shall terminate at the end of any fiscal year in the event that Congress shall fail to make an appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year.

BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETIES.

Due credit must be given associations of bird lovers, such as the Audubon societies, for initiating many of the campaigns which have brought about better protection for wild birds. The National Association of Audubon Societies was the pioneer in the establishment of reservations where birds are protected the year round. The laws protecting the sale of bird plumage were also initiated by the National Audubon Association.

There are at present in the State of California two active bird organizations of this type, the California Audubon Society, with a large membership in Southern California, and the Audubon Association of the Pacific, with a membership in the San Francisco Bay region. The latter organization, which is but a few years old, has been doing some splendid work among juveniles by organizing junior Audubon societies and by stimulating bird study among the Boy Scout organizations. It is also actively carrying on an educational campaign through the medium of a small monthly periodical known as "The Gull," which is now in its second volume. Besides conveying information regarding the monthly meetings and monthly field trips, "The Gull" has contained a number of interesting articles relating to bird protection and many notes of the occurrence of rare species of birds. This latest addition to organized bird study, the Audubon Association of the Pacific, under the active leadership of its president, Mr. C. B. Lastreto, is carrying out both lines of endeavor expressed in its aims—the study and protection of birds.

GAME ABUNDANT IN EARLY DAYS.

In an article appearing in "The Auk," volume 37, page 85, entitled "In Memoriam: Lyman Belding," Dr. A. K. Fisher says of this pioneer ornithologist, in connection with the subject of the abundance of game in California in early days:

He went to Stockton in March, 1856, and of game seen here and in other parts of California he says: "Game was abundant, including elk, antelope, deer, bear, otter, quail, and waterfowl. Elk have disappeared from the interior valleys of the state excepting a drove on the Miller and Lux Ranch of forty thousand acres in the San Joaquin Valley, and these animals are being captured and distributed to various parks. The elk of this state inhabited the tule marshes mainly, though I have seen many elk horns in the Marysville Buttes, probably left there by elk which came from the marshes of Butte Creek, and I have seen hundreds, if not thousands, of elk horns on the border of the tule swamps north of Stockton. Antelope have entirely disappeared from the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. I saw three in the latter valley a few miles west of Princeton in the summer of 1870 and a single one in

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Lower California about twenty-five miles south of Tia Juana in the spring of 1887. Deer were mostly in the mountains, with a few along the rivers where there were extensive thickets on bottom lands. They will continue to be common with proper protection."

SURE PUNISHMENT METED OUT TO VIOLATORS OF MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT.

There was a time when violators of the migratory bird treaty act depended upon escaping punishment through a trial in their own county by a jury often composed of friends and acquaintances, under which procedure dismissals reached a large percentage of the number of arrests. However, this is all changed now; for since July, 1918, the power to enforce this law has been vested in the Bureau of Biological Survey, of the United States Department of Agriculture, and instead of a trial in the state court in his own county, the violator is brought into the federal court, where, removed from his sphere of local influence, he meets certain punishment. Here in California, in the district known as the "duck country" of the Sacramento Valley, composed of the counties of Yolo, Sutter, Glenn, Colusa and Butte, prior to 1918 the number of dismissals reached about sixty per cent of the number of arrests. But in that year the arrest and conviction in the federal court of four of the most persistent violators with a substantial fine of $100 each, produced a very depressing effect upon chronic violators, and the sentiment has changed to such an extent that the violator usually begs to be allowed to plead guilty in the state court rather than be taken before the federal authorities. This certainty of punishment of violators, in the "duck country" alone, resulted during the period from October 6, 1918, to January 31, 1919 (almost four months), in 20 arrests, *no* dismissals, and fines aggregating $705; and during the period from October 15, 1919, to December 6, 1919 (less than two months), in 23 arrests, *no* dismissals, and fines aggregating $625. At first glance, owing to the greater number of arrests recorded for the latter period, it might seem that violations were on the increase during 1919, but this is not necessarily true. When it is remembered that since 1918 all United States deputy wardens also became state deputies, the increase in the number of arrests can no doubt be traced to the fact that the patrol service has become greatly augmented and more violations detected.

And it is not only in California that the migratory bird treaty act is being more stringently enforced. Five hundred dollars, the maximum fine, was recently levied by a judge in Michigan against a hunter for selling thirty-two ducks in violation of the act. Another violator of the same law, in Connecticut, who had been guilty of repeated offenses, was sentenced to three months in jail. This offender was not given the alternative of paying a fine. This growth in the number of convictions and enlargement of fines through the country shows the increasing concern with which the courts regard violations of this important statute, designed to protect migratory, insectivorous and nongame birds.

NAVAL AIR STATION FISH PATROL OPENS IDLE CANNERIES.

It will be of interest to know that the fish canneries of Southern California had been idle for four months until the inauguration of the Naval Air Station Fish Patrol. This service was instituted during the latter part of December, 1919, in accordance with an agreement between the Naval Air Station at San Diego and the Fish and Game Commission, whereby seaplanes were to sight schools of fish, wire back the direct location to the naval station, which then would telephone the information to the San Diego office of the Fish and Game Commission, which office in turn would immediately notify all canners and fishermen.

As a result of the first day's radio report locating schools of sardines, fishing fleets were able to procure large quantities of sardines, and since that time have been canning continuously, despite the fact that canneries previously had been idle for four months. Everyone interested in the industry is aware that the best and finest fish are found in deep waters, and fishermen hesitate going to uncertain fields on account of loss of time. But now the seaplane locates the schools and they are no longer a prospect, but a certainty.

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Genuine sardines are found only in California waters and those of Southern Europe, and the industry in California has made great progress in the past three years and bids fair to become the sardine canning center of the world. And now with the immeasurable value of the Naval Fish Patrol service a proven fact, it would seem that nothing could stand in the way of this development. And although the seaplanes have been so successful in locating schools of sardines, it is anticipated that they will be of still greater value in locating schools of large fish such as tuna, albacore, yellowtail, amberfish, etc., which are found farther from shore and run from early spring to late fall.

Reports of some of the flights made have revealed to canners the fact that seaplane service is really of as much a necessity to the fish and canning industry as fishing fleets or canning machinery, and it is the concensus of opinion that this fish patrol service must be continued. Here are a few of the reports:

I. Installed in cockpit--Hydroplane H. S. 2 L., as observer, Lieutenant E. P. McKellar, pilot. Third occupant, wireless operator. Took flight promptly 2 p.m. Followed leading hydroplane containing Lieutenant Linkins as official observer. Atmosphere fairly clear—slight haze, no clouds, sun rays direct, fairly stiff wind. Judged altitude plane our flight five to seven hundred feet. Altitude leading hydroplane considerable less. Flew north-northwest to area four, square seventy-three, which is west by north, off the coast of La Jolla about five miles and about twenty miles from San Diego by direct line. In this area of approximately ten miles square, we covered the course in serpentine fashion from south to north and return, from east to west and return. Neither on our flight to this area, nor in this area, did either crew discover a school of fish.

II. In this area, however, saw on four separate and distinct occasions, at intervals and in different locations, one single fish on each occasion. From our altitude, their depth in the water could not be definitely determined, nor could the size or species. Taking into consideration the effect of light upon and through water, the magnifying effect of clear water, the silvery scintillating sheen of fish scales on a moving object in clear water on a bright day, subtract our elevation; concluded these fish to be medium sized bass or yellowtail, although the perspective of distance made them appear in the size of a large sardine.

III. The area thoroughly patrolled, we followed the leading hydroplane east by south to the shore line above and off the coast of La Jolla. In the cove off La Jolla the leading hydroplane sighted three small schools of sardines. The information was immediately radioed to North Island, and all canneries had the benefit of this discovery within ten to twenty minutes thereafter.

IV. Still following the leading hydroplane, which was flying low, we proceeded east by south, following the shore line about one-quarter to three-quarters of a mile off shore; our altitude about 600 feet. Here we were again forcibly impressed by the discovery of the intense visibility possible from this height, to the depths under the surface of the water. The topography of the bottom of the ocean was plainly and distinctly clear to vision, as well as all plant life and formations, this being in many instances three-quarters of a mile off shore. The depth of the water we had no way of estimating, but to hazard a guess would say it was anywhere from forty to sixty feet in depth.

V. We crossed the channel and entrance to San Diego Bay, continuing flight over a great portion of Coronado Bay, where again were impressed with the intense visibility through this water, which is not nearly as clear as the pure ocean streams and currents. Regardless of its muddy and murky appearance, it was possible to see the bed of that bay for great distances. The value of this fact should immediately impress itself on one; for this bay is one of the largest and most favored feeding grounds of the sardine when in season.

VI. We proceeded, returned to our starting point at 4 p.m., elapsed time, two hours.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Two Italians of Thornton, San Joaquin County, were recently arrested for using a gill net on the Mokelumne River, where such fishing is illegal. These men pleaded guilty in court on January 29 and were fined $250 each by Judge Barber.

During the season of 1919, 30,836,000 fish, mostly salmon and trout, were reared and distributed from the twenty-two hatcheries and egg collecting stations operated by the California Fish and Game Commission.

State Lion Hunter Jay Bruce has been successful in reducing the number of lions in the large game refuge in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

Beavers have become so abundant on the Merced River near Snelling that damage to agricultural interests have resulted and special permission has been granted to the parties injured to reduce their number.

Whistling Swans (*Olor columbianus*) have again been numerous in this state the past winter (1919-20). Although frequenting the fresh waters of the interior valleys as a rule, this year they have been seen in considerable numbers in Bodega and Tomales bays and at the mouth of the Salinas River.

Of the 4500 commercial fishermen in California 29 per cent are natives of Japan, 27 per cent are natives of the United States, and 26 per cent of Italy.

Despite the fact that the whale is a mammal and not a fish, the Board of United States General Appraisers have decided in a test case that canned whale meat is fish and is subject to duty.

Although large numbers of herring were captured in Richardson's Bay last year (1919) and canned at Pittsburg, thus far this year they have failed to appear.

The American merganser has been reported in unusual numbers at numerous places along the Californian coast. Specimens have been taken at San Diego, and large numbers seem to be wintering in certain localities in San Francisco Bay, as for instance, near San Rafael.

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HATCHERY NOTES.

W. H. SHEBLEY, Editor.

FISH DISTRIBUTION, 1919.

During the season of 1919 the operations of the Department of Fishculture were more extensive than during any previous year of the Department's activity. The actual number of fish distributed was not as great, perhaps, as during some of the past years, but the fry were given a more careful and a wider distribution than ever before.

The procedure of distribution of fish by the fish distributing cars previously has been to deliver the fish to the various applicants at the designated railroad station, and for the applicants to attend to all of the work of actually planting the fish. In a great many instances this plan resulted in more or less serious losses of fish due to the inexperience of those handling them. A plan was adopted this season whereby a trained assistant was detailed to leave the fish car at the point of delivery and assist the applicants in planting the fish. Necessarily, it was not possible for a special messenger to accompany every lot of fish planted, but an effort was made to send someone with every large consignment, where the transportation and planting of the fish was at all difficult and when the applicants were inexperienced in fish planting.

Many of the applicants, who have been receiving trout fry from the Commission for planting in different sections of the state for several years past, are experienced in the work and no assistance from this Department, in the actual planting work, is necessary. In order to carry on this work it was necessary to employ several extra messengers for the distribution cars, but it is felt that the results obtained fully justify the extra expense.

The accompanying table shows the distribution of the different species of trout fry and salmon from the various hatcheries.

It will be noted that fish were distributed from sixteen hatcheries. In addition to these hatcheries six egg collecting stations, from which no distribution of fry was made, were operated. Thus it will be seen that altogether during the season of 1919 the Department of Fishculture operated twenty-two hatcheries and egg collecting stations and distributed in the waters of California 30,836,000 fish.

Fish Distribution, Season 1919.

Hatcheries	Rainbow	Eastern Brook	Loch Leven	Black Spotted	Steelhead	Golden	Brown
Bear Lake	748,000						
Brookdale					849,000		
Clear Creek	157,000						
Domingo Springs	220,000				116,000		
Fall Creek	670,000						
Fort Seward	234,000	8,500			538,000		
Kaweah	239,500			46,000	98,000		
Mount Shasta	2,468,500	1,070,000	2,746,000	87,000	1,411,500		320,000
Mount Tallac	51,000			685,000	185,000		
Mount Whitney	1,023,000	93,000	136,000	402,000	474,000	450,000	
North Creek	810,000						
Snow Mountain					250,000		
Tahoe	96,000			351,000		234,650	
Ukiah					600,000		
Wawona	155,000				100,000		
Yosemite	191,500			99,700	96,600		
Totals	7,063,500	1,171,500	2,882,700	1,670,700	4,718,100	684,650	320,000
Grand total, trout							18,510,450
Grand total, salmon							12,325,200
Total of grand totals							30,835,650

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Furthermore a great deal of construction and improvement work was undertaken at the various stations and under favorable climatic conditions, during the coming season more trout and salmon fry than has ever before been possible can be handled. This will make it possible to meet the ever growing demand for more and more fish for stocking the streams and lakes of practically every section of the state.

MOUNT SHASTA HATCHERY.

A total of 8,102,000 trout fry were distributed in streams of northern and central California from the Mount Shasta Hatchery during the season by the two fish distributing cars. The work of distributing the fish was carried on from June 23, when the first carload left the hatchery, until October 11, when the last of the fry were planted.

In addition to the propagation of trout at the Mount Shasta Hatchery, the salmon cultural operations were given careful attention this season. The take of quinnat salmon eggs at the United States Bureau of Fisheries stations at Mill Creek and Battle Creek was not as large as had been expected, and therefore as great a number of eggs as usual was not received. The take of eggs at our own Klamathon egg collecting station, located on the Klamath River, was also small. Especial attention was given the fry resulting from the eggs received. The fish were fed and held in the hatching boxes as long as it was possible to give them the proper attention and 6,593,000 were then planted in the upper reaches of the tributaries of the Sacramento River in the vicinity of Sisson, from February 28 to May 13, as conditions for their liberation were favorable.

Three and one-half million salmon fry were then transferred to our three large salmon rearing lakes where they were retained throughout the summer. They developed rapidly under the favorable conditions obtaining therein and when they were liberated, during the latter part of October, they were in perfect condition to commence their long journey to the sea.

Since the construction of hatchery A, the main building at the Mount Shasta Hatchery, in 1909-10, the hatchery troughs have never been renewed. Many of them were in very poor condition, and it was deemed absolutely essential, that the old boxes be removed and new ones put in. Accordingly the materials were ordered and on the ground by the time the last of the fish were taken out and the construction and installation of the new troughs was immediately commenced. The crew has been engaged in this work practically all winter and by the begin-

FIG. 26. Bear Lake Hatchery, San Bernardino County, California. Photographed by M. K. Spaulding, November, 1919.

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ning of the 1920 fish cultural season the new troughs will be ready for the reception of the eggs. Various other repairs to buildings and grounds have been made during the fall and winter months, and all is in readiness for the beginning of the season's operations.

KLAMATHON STATION.

During the late summer of 1918 the Klamathon egg collecting station was taken over by the California Fish and Game Commission from the United States Bureau of Fisheries and arrangements were made to operate the station that fall. Over one million eggs were taken and these were immediately shipped to the new Fall Creek Hatchery.

During the fall of 1919 this station was prepared to operate at full capacity. Nearly five million eggs were taken despite the extreme drought, which materially affected the run of quinnat salmon in the Klamath River. Had we received the usual amount of rainfall in that section during the months of October and November, the take of eggs would have been greatly in excess of the number obtained. The eggs were transferred immediately after spawning to Mount Shasta and Fall Creek hatcheries.

FALL CREEK HATCHERY.

Fall Creek Hatchery was operated for the first time during the season of 1919. The quinnat salmon eggs received from the Klamathon Station were hatched and reared to a suitable age, when 500,000 were distributed in Fall Creek, a tributary of the Klamath River, during the month of May. The balance of 650,000 were held in the rearing ponds throughout the summer and distributed during the months of September and October. These fish, like the ones retained in the salmon lakes at the Mount Shasta Hatchery, were in excellent condition when planted.

BOGUS CREEK STATION.

All of the rainbow trout eggs taken at Bogus and Camp creeks were "eyed" at the Fall Creek Hatchery. Seven hundred thousand were hatched at this station and reared for distribution in tributaries of the Klamath River, both above and below the dam of the California Oregon Power Company, at Copco. The balance of the "eyed" eggs were shipped to the Mount Shasta Hatchery.

COTTONWOOD CREEK STATION.

During the spring of 1919 the Cottonwood Creek egg collecting station near Hornbrook was operated and an extensive survey made of the creek with reference to the run of rainbow trout ascending the stream to spawn, with the idea of installing more suitable and permanent equipment for egg collecting operations. The investigations and the result of the season's operations demonstrated the value of the site, and accordingly a suitable lease was arranged and adequate facilities for handling the spawning trout during the coming spring installed.

MOUNT WHITNEY HATCHERY.

The operations at Mount Whitney Hatchery for the season were brought to a close during the latter part of October. On September the first, fish distribution car No. 01, was detached from fish distributing work at the Mount Shasta Hatchery and commenced the distribution from Mount Whitney Hatchery. The waters of Southern California were practically all stocked from the Mount Whitney Hatchery this season. Consignments of fish were shipped to Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Mono, Riverside, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare and Ventura counties. This was the most extensive distribution ever made from the Mount Whitney Hatchery.

Cottonwood Lakes station was operated and a new record was established for that station, 965,000 golden trout eggs being taken. All of the eggs were immediately transported by pack train over the mountain passes to the Mount Whitney Hatchery as soon as they were spawned, where they were "eyed." A large consignment of the "eyed" eggs was shipped to the Tahoe Hatchery and the balance were hatched and reared for distribution in the streams and lakes of the High Sierras, which were suitable for them.

Two and one-half million trout fry were distributed from Mount Whitney Hatchery this season. All of the fry planted were fine, large fish and the

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results of the season's planting to the waters of southern California should be productive of some excellent fishing for the sportsmen during the coming year.

TAHOE HATCHERY.

The hatchery at Tahoe City received shipments of rainbow, black-spotted and golden trout eggs from the various egg collecting stations and a total of over 650,000 fry, of these three species, were distributed in the water of the Tahoe Basin and other streams of El Dorado, Nevada and Sierra counties. During the month of October a consignment of 25,000 golden trout fry were shipped to the Yosemite Valley from Tahoe Hatchery.

MOUNT TALLAC HATCHERY.

The egg collecting operations at Mount Tallac Hatchery last spring were not as successful as usual, owing to adverse conditions of weather at Lake Tahoe during the early spring months. The crew reached the spawning station during the middle of March, but it was April 14th before the first eggs were taken. Two million black-spotted trout eggs were taken during the season and these were "eyed" and shipments of eggs were sent to Mount Shasta, Mount Whitney, Tahoe, Kaweah and Yosemite hatcheries. Nearly 700,000 black-spotted eggs were hatched at the Mount Tallac Hatchery and were distributed together with rainbow and steelhead trout fry in the waters of Alpine, El Dorado and Placer counties.

FORT SEWARD HATCHERY.

A million quinnat salmon eggs were hatched at Fort Seward Hatchery during the spring of 1919 and the resulting fry were distributed in the Eel River and tributaries, Mad River and the tributaries of Humboldt Bay. Rainbow, eastern brook and steelhead trout eggs were shipped to the Fort Seward Hatchery during April and May and these were hatched and reared during the spring and early summer months. A total of 770,000 trout fry were distributed in the streams of Humboldt and Trinity counties during July and August.

As soon as the fry were distributed extensive improvement work at the station was commenced. The site of the hatchery is very isolated and great difficulty has been experienced in keeping assistants employed at the station. The living quarters for the men have been very poor and it was essential that something be done to improve conditions, if the station was to be kept in operation. Accordingly arrangements were made to improve the superintendent's dwelling and two plain, but comfortable, little cottages were put up for the assistants and equipped with necessary furniture for housekeeping.

UKIAH HATCHERY.

A larger number of steelhead trout fry were reared at Ukiah Hatchery for distribution in the streams of that section than have been handled during former seasons. A total of 600,000 trout fry were distributed in Mendocino and Sonoma counties during the summer. In the spring months practically all of the eggs taken at Snow Mountain Station were "eyed" at Ukiah and the results obtained were very satisfactory.

SNOW MOUNTAIN STATION.

During the spring of 1919, 5,400,000 steelhead trout eggs were collected at the Snow Mountain Station. Had it not been for the failure of the water supply and inadequate facilities for handling spawning trout in the holding pens in the late spring, when the water became very warm, a much greater number of eggs could have been taken. A quarter of a million steelhead eggs were hatched at the Snow Mountain Station and distributed in the tributaries of Eel River. During the past month a crew of men at the Snow Mountain Station have been engaged in building new holding pens and making improvements and repairs to the station, that will improve the handling of the fish during the coming season.

BROOKDALE HATCHERY.

Brookdale Hatchery was operated the same as usual during the season of 1919, the steelhead eggs received from Scott Creek being "eyed" for shipment to other stations, with the exception of 850,000 fry, which were hatched and planted during the summer months in Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties.

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SCOTT CREEK STATION.

The total take of steelhead trout eggs was only 1,750,000 at Scott Creek during the season of 1919, owing to the drought, which seriously interfered with the extent of our operations in that section. As stated above the eggs were all sent to the Brookdale Hatchery, where they were "eyed" for distribution to various other hatcheries.

ALMANOR HATCHERY.

Two hundred thousand rainbow trout eggs were taken at the Almanor dam of the Great Western Power Company last season, but the water supply for the hatchery failed early in the season and it was necessary to transfer all of the eggs as soon as they were properly "eyed" to the Clear Creek Hatchery near Westwood.

DOMINGO SPRINGS HATCHERY.

Nearly a million rainbow trout eggs were taken at Domingo Springs Station during the season and consignments of "eyed" eggs were shipped to Mount Shasta and Wawona hatcheries. The rainbow and steelhead trout fry reared at the Domingo Springs Station were given a very wide distribution in streams and lakes of Lassen, Plumas and Tehama counties. An auto truck was used for a great part of the distribution and the United States Forest Service at Mineral cooperated in the work of giving the fish a wide distribution. After the fish were all planted very extensive improvements were made to the station and an auxiliary egg collecting station was established at the mouth of Warner Creek If conditions are favorable during the coming season for egg collecting operations in that section, a much larger take of eggs can be looked for than has ever before been obtained.

CLEAR CREEK HATCHERY.

The rainbow trout eggs received at Clear Creek Hatchery from the Almanor Hatchery were hatched and distributed in the streams and lakes in the vicinity of Westwood, Lassen County. It was the first season this station was operated and the results obtained were satisfactory in every respect. After the fish had all been distributed many little repairs and improvements were made and racks and trap were installed in the creek beside the hatchery. A holding pen for the spawning trout was also constructed and during the coming season an effort will be made to collect eggs from the rainbow trout running up Clear Creek to spawn.

FIG. 27. Fish rack on Warner Creek, Plumas County, California, where many trout were taken for spawning purposes this past year. Photographed by M. K. Spaulding, September, 1919.

BEAR LAKE HATCHERY.

Nearly 5,000,000 rainbow trout eggs were taken at North Creek Egg Collecting Station during the season of 1919, despite the inadequate facilities to handle the work. It was demonstrated that to take advantage of the wonderful possibilities for the collecting of rainbow trout eggs at Bear Lake it was essential that very extensive improvements be made in order to handle the spawning fish properly, that suitable hatchery buildings, properly equipped, be provided at both North Creek and Green Spot Springs, and most important of all, that adequate living accommodations be provided for the foremen and assistants at both places. It is not possible to obtain satisfactory results from a station where the egg collecting paraphernalia is inadequate for the requirements, and poorly constructed; where the hatching troughs are covered only by canvas and where the foremen and assistants in charge of the work are compelled to live at an altitude of 7000 feet above sea level, in a land of deep snow and freezing weather, with only small tents for living quarters. It is neither fair to the men nor to the work to operate under such conditions. Accordingly, as soon as the fish were distributed, a crew of men was put to work on the various creeks flowing into Bear Lake. The beds of the streams were cleaned up and passageways were cut to enable the spawning fish to enter the creeks through the sand bars. Checks were made, racks and traps constructed, and cabins built for watchmen and trap tenders.

The hatchery buildings at North Creek and Green Spot Springs were put in first class shape and suitable living quarters were constructed for the foremen and assistants. The stations are now in excellent condition for the coming season's work, and if there is sufficient snow and rainfall in that section this season, the take of eggs will undoubtedly break all past records.

KAWEAH HATCHERY.

To keep up with the demands of the applicants of Kern, Fresno and Tulare counties for trout fry for the streams of that section, it was decided to establish an experimental hatchery to ascertain the suitability of the water for hatchery purposes. A site was selected near the town of Hammond on the Kaweah River, on one of the main highways. Rainbow, black-spotted and steelhead trout eggs were shipped to the hatchery and the fry hatched were given the very best attention throughout the spring and summer months, careful records being made of water temperatures. The fry reared were strong and healthy and attained a very good size. Three hundred and eighty thousand trout were hatched, reared and planted in the tributaries of the Kaweah River and other streams in that section during the summer. All arrangements have been made and plans drawn for a good-sized hatchery building to be constructed this spring, providing that a satisfactory lease can be obtained for a hatchery site.

WAWONA HATCHERY.

Wawona Hatchery was again operated during the past season. Rainbow and steelhead eggs were shipped in from other stations and a quarter of a million fry were distributed in the streams of Madera and Mariposa counties during the early summer months.

YOSEMITE HATCHERY.

The experimental station located at Happy Isles in Yosemite Valley was operated during the summer. Rainbow, black-spotted and steelhead trout eggs were shipped in from other stations, and the fry resulting therefrom were successfully reared to a good size and were given an extensive distribution in the streams and lakes in the Yosemite Valley, with the cooperation of the officials and employees of the Yosemite National Park. The site was demonstrated as being satisfactory for hatchery purpose, but as it is against the policy of the state to erect permanent buildings on leased land it was decided at a meeting of the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners, held during the latter part of October, to abandon the project. All equipment was therefore removed from the site and transported by auto trucks to the Wawona Hatchery, where it has been used to equip that station for more extensive operations.

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COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. SCOFIELD, Editor

INVESTIGATION OF HALIBUT FISHERIES PROPOSED.

In the proposed treaty between the United States and Canada to regulate and conserve the halibut fishery it is provided that inhabitants of either of the two countries may not fish for halibut in the North Pacific Ocean from November 16 to February 15, both dates inclusive, this closed season to continue in effect until February 15, 1930. It also provides that the two governments shall cause to be made a thorough joint investigation into the life history of the Pacific halibut. The International Fisheries Commission, appointed by the two governments in 1919 for the protection and rehabilitation of the salmon fisheries of the Fraser River and Puget Sound, is charged with the supervision of the halibut investigation.

It was conclusively shown some six years ago by Mr. W. F. Thompson, who made an investigation of the halibut fishery for the government of British Columbia, that the known halibut banks were being depleted at an alarming rate. This was clearly shown by a decided decrease in the catch per unit of fishing gear and by a marked reduction in the catch of large fish. Since that time the total catch has declined rapidly and it does not need a life history investigation to show that the halibut fishery of the North Pacific is well on its way to commercial extermination. An investigation of life histories is well enough and a necessary part of such an investigation, but it is more important to institute a system of gathering accurate statistics of the catch. We have been slow in learning that the basis of fisheries conservation work must be accurate and complete data of the catch. It strikes us that the two governments are about six years late in starting and that the short winter closed season, during the time the catch is always very light, is totally inadequate.

SLEEPER SHARK CAPTURED.

A sleeper shark, known to ichthyologists as *Somniosus microcephalous* was taken in one of the A. Paladini Company's trawl nets while fishing off Point Reyes on February 26. The length of the fish was only seven feet, which is considered small, as sleeper sharks reach a length of twenty-five feet. The event was not remarkable in the fact that a shark was taken in a trawl net, for the trawl nets catch large numbers of sharks, but in the fact that this is the first sleeper shark that has ever been recorded from California. This adds one more species to the list of nineteen sharks found in California as given by Professor E. C. Starks in October, 1917, and January, 1918, issues of this magazine.

The sleeper shark may be known from the other sharks by the absence of an anal fin and by the absence of a spine at the front of each of the two dorsal fins. This sluggish and clumsy looking shark is commonly found in the Arctic regions and extending down the Siberian coast to Japan and down the west coast of North America to Puget Sound. It is found commonly about Greenland and south to Cape Cod and France. On our New England coast it is known as the gurry shark from its habit of eating fish offal. In Alaska it frequents the region of the salmon canneries where it eats the fish offal thrown away at the canneries. It is reported as attacking whales in a ferocious manner, biting chunks from their hides.

MARKING SOCKEYE SALMON FRY.

The United States Bureau of Fisheries is marking yearling sockeye salmon fry at their Bonneville Hatchery in Oregon. These fry, hatched from eggs obtained at the salmon hatchery at Afognak, Alaska, will be liberated in the Columbia River and a watch kept for their return to the stream to spawn three years hence. A few years ago the Bureau marked and liberated, in the Columbia River, sockeye fry which were hatched from eggs taken at Yes Bay, Alaska. These fry returned at the age of four years to spawn and it was found that they were not like the sockeyes which run naturally in the Columbia River but were like the Yes Bay fish in size and quality, thus proving pretty conclusively that the fish from the

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two places are not different on account of a difference in the feed in the two places, but for the reason that the sockeyes of the two regions are distinct races and that size and quality are inherited characters. The sockeyes at Afognak are of still another race whose members are smaller of size and of different quality when compared with either the Yes Bay or Columbia fish of the same species. The return of the fish now being marked will be eagerly awaited for the final and conclusive proof that size and quality are inherited characters.

LOW RIVERS INFLUENCE SPAWNING HABITS OF HERRING.

Ordinarily herring which enter San Francisco Harbor in January and February congregate in Richardson Bay and along the lower end of Angel Island, attaching their spawn to the rocks and sea weeds along the shores of Belvedere as well as along the shore of the main land and Angel Island near the lower end of Raccoon Straits. This year, on account of the low water in the rivers, which permitted the salt water to move further up stream than ever before recorded, the herring have for the first time in the memory of the oldest fishermen, deposited their spawn in the upper portion of the harbor known as San Pablo Bay. They attached their sqawn in all suitable places from Point San Pablo to Point Pinole and the schools of herring instead of collecting in Richardson Bay near Sausalito and Belvedere moved on up through Raccoon Straits so that the best fishing was found from Southhampton Shoal to Red Rock.

Very few herring were caught this season in San Francisco Bay for the reason that there was no good demand for them in the markets and under the new law the fishermen were not permitted to catch them for reduction purposes. The San Francisco wholesale markets were not able to dispose of over two or three tons per day. None were salted or smoked as the local demand for salted and smoked herring ended when the saloons closed on July 1. The market for canned herring was off so none of them were canned. Fishermen at the wharf frequently begged for buyers at twenty-five cents per box, and these delicious fish were offered at the fish stalls at from five to seven cents per pound without creating any appreciable demand among those who complain of the high cost of fish. Salmon and striped bass were scarce at the time and extremely high priced, but even that did not help the sale of the cheaper variety.

SALMON PACKERS FEAR SALMON DEPLETION.

With the failure of the sockeye runs in Puget Sound and Fraser River as an object lesson the salmon packers have become alarmed over the future of the salmon industry in Alaska. The interested packers met together and decided something had to be done if the Alaska salmon fisheries are to continue yielding them a profit. A committee was appointed to draft a comprehensive bill for the conservation of the fisheries to be introduced and passed upon by the Congress of the United States. The committee was wisely chosen and is made up of the following members: D. W. Branch of Libby, McNeill & Libby; Carl A. Sutter of the Fidalgo Island Packing Company; Frank M. Warren of Alaska-Portland Packers' Association; Henry O'Malley, Pacific Coast Agent United States Bureau of Fisheries; Dr. C. H. Gilbert of Stanford University; John N. Cobb, Director College of Fisheries, University of Washington; John R. Beegle, of Alaska Fish Commission, and C. D. Garfield, Secretary Alaska Fish Commission. The committee has worked for several months and has finally perfected a bill which is likely to have the backing of the salmon packers, the Alaska Fish Commission, the United States Bureau of Fisheries and all interested in salmon conservation. The main object of the bill is to provide for a larger number of salmon to reach the spawning beds. It also provides for the organization of an Alaska Fish Commission composed of five members to be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce and gives this commission ample power to carry on the conservation work of such a commission. It is estimated that the measures in the bill regulating the fishing seasons and methods of fishing will reduce the salmon catch about twenty per cent.

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KAMABOKO BEING MANUFACTURED AT SAN PEDRO.

Among the additions to the fish packing industry at San Pedro Harbor is a plant recently established by Mr. Isona for manufacturing kamaboko. This is a product prepared from white-meated fish by Japanese methods. Barracuda is usually employed in its manufacture but halibut, sea bass and jewfish are sometimes utilized.

Kamaboko is prepared by first removing all bones from the fish and scraping the flesh free from the skin. The meat is then placed in a large, hollow granite bowl where it is ground into a fine paste. Cornstarch, salt, sugar, and the juice made by soaking several fronds of Japanese seaweed (*Arthrothamnus bifidus*) in warm water are added, and the mixture is then moulded into forms and placed on thin wooden blocks about eight inches long. After being steamed for forty-five minutes it is cooled and packed for shipment. For fetes and special occasions the loaves, weighing about one pound, are tinted, red, blue, or green, and resemble very much pieces of pastry. Other forms are moulded and baked or fried in oil without coloring.

The manufacture of kamaboko has developed into quite an industry in Japan, where it is one of the staple articles of food. It is palatable and nutritious and may be eaten as a sandwich filling, or cut into small pieces and added to soups, chowders, or chop suey. The finished product will keep about one week, but plans are now under way to can it for export trade.

The plant at San Pedro has a capacity of approximately five hundred pounds of fish per day. C. S. BAUDER.

Most of those who complain of the high cost of fish know only three varieties—salmon, striped bass and halibut.

* * *

Any official who attempts to satisfy the public on the price of fish has set for himself an impossible task.

* * *

Scarcely one-fifth of California's fish catch goes to the fresh fish markets.

* * *

The wholesale value of last year's fish pack in California exceeded twenty-five million dollars.

* * *

California ranks first among the states in the value of her fishery products.

* * *

If California had depended only on the fresh fish markets its fisheries would now be unimportant.

* * *

The only adequate way to get the public to eat new varieties of fish is to get the fish in cans and give them euphonious names.

* * *

The price of fish does not cut as much figure as the name.

* * *

One of the best food fishes we have in California is the shad, which was introduced some fifty years ago from the Atlantic coast. These excellent fish are now running and are abundant and cheap. We will use less than ten per cent of the catch in this state. The rest will be shipped to Chicago, Boston or New York where they sell readily at three times their price in San Francisco, while we continue to complain of the high cost of fish.

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NOTES FROM THE STATE FISHERIES LABORATORY.*

By WILL F. THOMPSON and ELMER HIGGINS.

A SCIENTIFIC ASSISTANT EMPLOYED.

The Commission has secured the services of Miss Helen M. Edwards as a scientific assistant, commencing January 15. Miss Edwards has had considerable experience as assistant in work of the character now being done by the Commission, having been employed while she was still an undergraduate at Stanford University, by Doctor C. H. Gilbert during his work on the salmon. In addition, she has done scientific drawing, and is a capable stenographer.

W. F. T.

PROGRESS OF THE SARDINE WORK.

Mr. Higgins at San Pedro, and Mr. Sette at Monterey, are engaged under the supervision of Mr. Thompson, in laying the foundation for the future work on the sardine. This preliminary "survey," if such it may be called, consists of a careful and laborious tracing of the character of the sardine "runs" at different times of the year and the ascertaining of the size classes which go to make up the catches. The samples are obtained from the boats as they unload at the canneries, and measurements of length and weight are taken, together with other biological observations on sex and state of maturity. This is expected to give data upon which age may be distinguished, to render it possible to correlate fluctuations in catch with various conditions, to enable the catches of successive years to be compared more accurately from the standpoint of age composition and to indicate the spawning season as nearly as possible. The necessity for such a "survey" and its value in future work have already been amply demonstrated in a number of ways, upon which comment may be expected in the future.

The Commission has been granted the courtesy of accommodations at Hopkins Marine Station, at Pacific Grove, as headquarters for the work being done on the sardine at Monterey, and thanks are due the director, Doctor W. K. Fisher, for his many favors. The work on the sardine is also being carried on at San Pedro, and the Commission is under obligations to the Neilsen and Kittle Canning Company for quarters there. Without their courtesy the Commission would be without adequate facilities for the investigation, as the present laboratory at Long Beach is too distant from the fishery centers.

W. F. T.

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 18.

OCCURRENCE OF A DEEP SEA FISH AT MONTEREY.

It often happens, especially in deep sea halibut fishing, that cod or halibut trawls are set over water which is too deep, and in such case strange silvery fish are sometimes taken. These fish have snouts projecting in sharp angles beyond the large mouth, their eyes are large, their scales are very rough and silvery, and the body tapers back into a long, thin, pointed tail bordered above and below with fins, but lacking a separate tail fin. These fishes are allied to the cods, and belong to the family Coryphaenoididae. One such specimen was brought into Monterey during January, and preserved by Mr. Oyer, the deputy there. It belongs to the species known as *Nematonurus acrolepis*, one taken in numbers by the United States Bureau of Fisheries' vessel "Albatross" during her work off California, and found along our coasts in depths of 500 and 1500 fathoms as far north as Bering Sea and in Japanese waters. It was entirely unknown to the fishermen, as would be natural considering the depths at which it is usually found. W. F. T.

INVESTIGATION OF THE SALTON SEA.

During the latter part of December, Mr. Crandall of the Scripps Institution, and Doctor H. C. Bryant and Mr. W. F. Thompson of the Fish and Game Commission, visited Salton Sea to investigate the life and the hydrographical conditions of the sea. They were the guests of Captain Davis, who has long been known to the Commission as engaged in shipping mullet from Salton Sea. During the visit, large specimens of mullet were taken by Captain Davis' fishermen, but no other

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live fish were observed with the exception of two top minnows taken along the shore. These were of a form usually taken in desert springs and streams, *Cyprinodon maculavius*. Later Captain Davis sent to Mr. Thompson samples of small fish taken from the vicinity of Fish Springs at the northwestern end of Salton Sea. These proved to be of the same species.

The existence of the grey mullet in Salton Sea is of considerable interest, as the species must have entered during the inflow of the Colorado River during 1906. If so the mullet must have lived in the Colorado at some distance from its mouth, a fact not strange when the frequent appearance of the mullet in rivers and lagoons bordering our coast is remembered. However, it has taken some time for the species to become abundant in Salton Sea, it having been unrecorded previous to 1915, according to Captain Davis. During the interval it is said that carp appeared in great numbers and then died off. The carp and the mullet are both bottom feeding fish, consuming vegetation, etc., and are not dependent on other smaller fish species. But the mullet is also capable of existing in brackish and salt water—that being its natural habitat in fact—and it is probable that this enabled it to flourish where the carp could not. The ancients used to grow mullet in artificial enclosures, and the flesh was considered a great delicacy.

There are also said to be species of fresh water fish found at times near the outlets of the New and the Alamo rivers, but nothing was seen of these. W. F. T.

THE RECUPERATIVE POWER OF THE ABALONE.

During 1911 Mr. W. F. Thompson carried on a survey of the shell fish of the northern part of the state, and during its course came naturally to handle many specimens of the red abalone, *Haliotis rufescens*. Among these was a specimen remarkable for the evident great recuperative powers. The viscera of the abalone naturally surround the large central muscle in a peculiar way, as a bent cone, and in this case the cone had been cut off by some one attempting to obtain the abalone. The attempt failing, the abalone had evidently succeeded in covering the large mass of dead cut-off parts with pearly layers of shell. But that the animal had been seriously injured could not be doubted, the edge of the shell showing a total cessation of growth for some time previous to death. The shell only was found, the abalone having finally died, possibly as a result of the injury. A photograph of it is presented.

Altered shell formation is not at all infrequent, particularly among clams, where growth is often seemingly totally stopped by some injury, and starts again well in from the former edge. But no instance has ever been seen by the

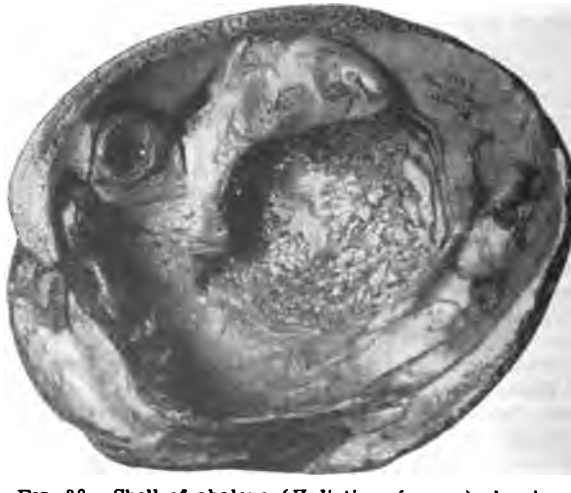

FIG. 28. Shell of abalone (*Haliotis rufescens*) showing part of damaged viscera covered by a pearly layer of shell. Taken near Fort Bragg in 1911.

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undersigned where the injury was of such a severe nature as in the case of this abalone, and in which shell formation subsequently proceeded for any length of time. W. F. T.

OCCURRENCE OF THE GREEN ABALONE IN MONTEREY.

Due to the kindness of Mr. Ernest Dalter, who conducts a sea food restaurant in Monterey, it is possible to record the occurrence of the northern "green" abalone, *Haliotis wallalensis*, in the Bay of Monterey. It is undoubtedly a very rare inhabitant of our waters. Mr. Dalter has in his possession a shell of this supposed variety of *Haliotis fulgens* 3¾ inches long. It is hardly to be doubted that it is a distinct species, not a variety of the "green" abalone, the shell much resembling that of the red abalone, never exceeding 5½ inches in length, and usually possessing 6 or 7 open holes. W. F. T.

STREAM POLLUTION IN NEW YORK STATE.

In a recent publication by the Conservation Commission of the State of New York, 1919, Doctor Henry B. Ward of the University of Illinois records the results of his preliminary investigation of polluted streams in New York in their relation to fish life. In this paper he emphasizes the utility of biological work, rather than chemical or bacteriological, in determining the extent of pollution. Bacterial tests are made to determine the effect of the water when used for drinking, but these have little relation to fish life. Chemical tests are of limited use because "we do not by any means always know the effect upon living organisms of a given chemical substance," especially in varying dilutions and relation to other chemicals present. "In order to reach a more accurate measure of the injurious character of polluted waters, one would have to take into account the effects of the prolonged influences of a waste on the fish." The resistance of various species varies widely, as does that of the same species at different seasons. Doctor Ward is plainly of the opinion that "if the character of the water and the bottom have been so modified by the introduction of foreign materials that they no longer afford opportunity for the development of these smaller organisms (food for fish), then by the absence of such forms of life one would demonstrate clearly and positively the fact that water has been rendered unfit for fish existence"—this method to be used, of course, in addition to the observations and tests made directly upon fish themselves.

Californians should be interested chiefly on account of the relation of pollution to salmon and other anadromous fishes, to which the following by Doctor Ward may sometime apply here: "It is hardly a profitable business for the state to raise at such a considerable expense quantities of young fish in order to plant them out in waters in which the chances of existence are unfavorable." Doctor Ward presents a preliminary survey of the water polluted streams, and a series of recommendations, to which the attention of any one interested may be called. He lays much emphasis on the necessity of a careful census, continued study, reclamation of wastes and the education of public opinion to the banishment of wastes from our streams as they have been banished from our streets. There is enclosed with the paper a map showing the great number of establishments in New York from which pollution may be expected.

W. F. T.

GULLS IN MONTEREY BAY.

On account of the fish eating habits of sea gulls, their abundance is a matter of interest to those engaged in the study of fish. At Monterey, where the sardine canneries are located, there are frequently great flocks at rest on the rocks and adjacent quiet waters, which seem to be thickly spotted with the birds as far as the eye can reach. An exceptionally favorable opportunity seemed to present itself on February 17 of this year, 1920, because of the unusual number of birds present, and an attempt was made to estimate the numbers of birds within eyesight of a window in the Hopkins Marine Station. Counting with a field glass it was certain that 3000 were within sight of the naked eye, and it would not be amiss to increase this by another thousand to cover those not seen or in flight. This number, 4000, surely represented a half of the total in the region comprising the waterfronts of Monterey and New Mon-

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terey. (Later in the afternoon Mr. Sette counted 2600 from the same position, thus virtually corroborating the previous estimate.)

According to Doctor W. K. Fisher the species dominantly represented were the glaucus-winged, the western, and the herring gulls, in the order named.

There can not be much doubt as to the fact that the birds in Monterey Bay were the majority of those within many miles, and many more than are usually present, so that from the rough figures given some estimate of the maximum amount of fish they might consume can be derived. Taking a pound of sardines a day as all a sea gull would consume, an estimate probably very excessive, and considering them all as fish eaters, the four thousand within sight would be satisfied with two tons. This would be about six-tenths of one per cent of what are taken daily by fishermen at this point. Furthermore it is almost certain that most of the fish eaten by the gulls are the sardines discarded by the boats and canneries, or other species locally abundant. Doctor Fisher calls attention to the fact that gulls are diurnal in habit, and must have trouble in catching live sardines during the light of the day, the more so as they are incapable of diving more than a few inches under the water surface. Naturally, regardless of the exact proportion the gulls in sight were of the grand total, the amount eaten is not one which threatens to deplete the sardine. And as a matter of fact, the presence of so many gulls should be rather a sharp commentary on the waste during the handling of the fish.

These remarkably large flocks of gulls which obtain their food from the sardine industry are supposed to stay at night on some rocky islets at some distance from the canneries, but Mr. Sette who has collected samples of the sardine catch throughout this season, states that he has observed gulls to the number of thirty or more feeding on the sardines lost overboard from lighters unloading about 11:30 at night, hence during total darkness, on January 20 of this year. Whether this is a normal or usual habit with them he does not know. W F. T.

OCCURRENCE OF A RARE CRAB.

Mr. T. Taniguchi, one of the Japanese fishery experts at one time engaged in the albacore fishery for the Fish and Game Commission, has forwarded three crabs taken from a depth of twenty-five fathoms on a rock cod bank about half way between San Diego and the Coronado Islands. They prove to be very interesting specimens of the same species as one taken by the United States vessel, the "Albatross," during her deep sea work on this coast in 1889 at Station 2946, latitude 33 degrees 58 minutes north and longitude 119 degrees 30 minutes 45 seconds west, and described by James E. Benedict as *Galathea californiensis*. The correspondence between our specimens and the one described by him is very close, and no doubt exists concerning the identification.

The present specimens were taken by the boat "Julia," engaged in rock cod fishing, and were inside a silicious sponge, one of the open Hexactinellid type, about three feet in diameter. They were taken February 5, 1920. The largest is 50 millimeters in length from the telson to the tip of the rostrum. W. F. T.

SCIENTIFIC WORK OF THE "ALBACORE" IN DECEMBER.

Early in December of last year, the "Albacore" made its final trip of the season for the collection of data on the life history of the halibut. During the greater part of last year, trips were made at regular intervals for the purpose of collecting data on the distribution of the eggs and young of food fishes and the location of their spawning grounds, as well as the collecting of data on the life history of the halibut, but owing to insufficient equipment a part of this work was discontinued, and now all of it is temporarily stopped, due, in part, to the centering of the attention of the laboratory staff on other and more pressing problems. The results of the December trip are of special interest because they illustrate both the practical or immediate, and the more purely scientific values of such work.

In hauling for flatfish, a special otter trawl modified from the commercial

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paranzella or drag net is used, with ordinary manila rope towing warps. This gear is simple and crude, but catches are made averaging from 500 to 1500 pounds of fish and invertebrate animals, including as high as twenty species of fish in one haul. Although the work has been chiefly confined to inshore operations, on December 9 and 10 two hauls, which yielded valuable results, were made in water about 50 fathoms deep on a good trawling bottom off Huntington Beach, Orange County.

Besides taking a commercially successful catch of market fish, red rock cod (*Sebastodes sp.*) halibut, flounders, and sole of various species—these hauls revealed the presence of several species of excellent food fishes not commonly taken in these waters and rare or unknown in the markets. One of these was the sand dab, *Citharichthys sordidus*, so common in the San Francisco markets. These fish are not caught in any quantity in the south, and the southern markets therefore receive their supply from the north.

Another species taken in considerable quantities in the hauls was the yellow-spotted sanddab, *Citharichthys xanthostigma*, recorded for the first time from the California coast in CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME for April, 1919. This sand dab is a wider, plumper fish, with more meat for the amount of bone than the common dab from San Francisco and would be more valuable if the location of profitable banks were known and a stable supply in the markets insured.

Two species of "sole" were also taken which might be found in commercial quantities in the south if they were sought in deep enough water. These were the slippery or Chinese sole, *Microstomus pacificus*, and the long-finned or rex sole, *Glyptocephalus zachirus*. Both are common in the San Francisco markets where they are often strung with sand dabs in bunches and all sold together under one name, but are unknown in local catches in the south.

Another species taken in these hauls was the sable fish, or Alaska black cod, *Anoplopoma fimbria*. This fish is common north of San Francisco, but is said by naturalists to be rare in southern California and seldom seen in the markets. It is, however, by no means uncommon in the south but is so little appreciated that it is grossly misnamed "hake" by the rock cod fishermen, who take considerable numbers on their lines, but reject it from the catch as worthless because the flesh is rather soft. The United States Bureau of Fisheries has advocated the exploitation of this fish in northern waters, and methods for its use have been devised. It is said to be particularly adapted to salting and drying.

Thus we see that several useful food fish have been added to the list of edible fish taken by the "Albacore" by changing the method of fishing and the locality fished, and it would seem from this that great good could be accomplished by further prospecting and experimenting in deeper water.

Of no less importance than the results recorded above are those of greater scientific interest. Besides supplying data from about 300 halibut concerning their age and rate of growth, their spawning period, and fecundity, several species were taken which extend somewhat the known range of the species, adding to our knowledge of their geographical distribution.

One of the surprising finds was the rare and little known smelt, *Argentina sialis*, Gilbert. This little fish, about three inches long, is our only southern California representative of the family Argentinidae, or true smelts, but is not related to the "smelts" common in the south, which belong to a different family. About 300 specimens were taken and they agree in all essential points with the description of the type specimen, which is the only specimen of this species known. This type specimen was recorded and described by Doctor Gilbert in 1890 as from the Gulf of California, Albatross Station No. 3017, latitude 29 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds north, and longitude 113 degrees 01 minutes 00 seconds west, in 58 fathoms.* Our specimens were taken December 9 and 10, 1919, in 45 fathoms off Huntington Beach, and this seems to be their second recorded occurrence.

Two specimens of the peculiar little eel-pout, *Lycodopsis pacificus* (Collet), family, Zoarcidae, occurred in one of the

*Proceedings U. S. National Museum, 1890, p. 56.

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above hauls. These were immature specimens and differed somewhat in coloration from current descriptions of the species. This species is recorded as occurring rather commonly in water of moderate depth from San Francisco to Puget Sound, so that this occurrence extends the known range considerably southward.

Two other species were taken which are known to occur as far south as Point Concepcion, and although not actually extending their known range appreciably, may nevertheless be listed as rare here at their extreme southern limit. They are the starry skate, *Raja stellulata*, Jordon and Gilbert, and a flounder, *Pleuronichthys decurrens*, Jordon and Gilbert. E. H.

LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

WINTER OCCURRENCE OF THE FULVOUS TREE DUCK IN THE CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY.

In that definite winter records are few in number, it is well to record the occurrence of the fulvous tree duck, *Dendrocygna bicolor*, in the central San Joaquin Valley during the winter of 1919-1920. As late as January 22 of this winter Mr. J. L. Kinnear, of Newman, saw a flock of five of these ducks on the Newman Club grounds; and still later, on January 31, Mr. C. C. Huber, also of Newman, killed two of these ducks on the Newman Club grounds. One of these specimens, mounted, Mr. Huber presented to Mr. Otto Feudner, of the Peters Cartridge Company, 583 Howard street, San Francisco, where it is now on display. The other mounted specimen he still retains in his possession. There were also a few fulvous tree ducks seen and some killed on the Gustine Club grounds during January.—J. E. NEWSOME, *Newman, California.*

THE POMFRET, NEAR FORT BRAGG.

Two specimens of the pomfret, *Brama raii*, were caught about three miles off the coast near Fort Bragg by W. G. Vossbrink, on July 23, 1919. They were taken on a salmon troll with spoon hook, 35 fathoms of line being out at an estimated angle of 30 degrees. The fishes measured 16½ inches and were bright silver in color. Authors have described this species as sooty gray, which appears to be characteristic of preserved specimens only, where the brilliant silvery pigment has been destroyed. An example in the National Museum which was taken off the coast of Washington, offers every evidence of having been like these specimens, as bright as a new dollar. A touch of the finger will often efface the metallic color.—J. O. SNYDER, *Palo Alto, California.*

WHERE DO DEER SLEEP.

I have many times observed that mule deer in the Southern Sierras always bed within thick cedars or other forest trees on moonlight nights, whereas the same deer apparently sleep out in the open, as for instance in an apple orchard or among brush, during the dark of the moon. Whether this is a constant habit or one but locally developed I can not say, but it seems reasonable to believe that these various locations are chosen as a means of protection from enemies.—O. P. BROWNLOW, *Portarville, California.*

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE COOPERATION.

FIRE AND OUR FORESTS.

We have lately had a sudden, energetic flare of discussion all over California upon the ancient notions of "Piute forestry" whose deep fire-scars remain upon so many of our giant landmark pines and sequoias. It can be made to sound very plausible: "burn off the rubbish, the dead limbs and 'stubs,' the thick undergrowth and chaparral; clear the way for more forest, incidently get more grass, besides, all the tree-beetles which destroy so much standing timber." All this by light surface fires—variously applied, kept as far as possible under control, and aimed at producing a smooth forest floor.

The Forest Service is solidly opposed to every sort of "light burning" because they have seen it in practice many times,

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and under all sorts of conditions; so are the foresters of all other civilized countries. This does not mean, of course, that foresters do not desire to burn "stubs" and dead trees so dangerously apt to be struck by lightning or burn the "tops" after logging wherever that can be done with safety, in the cool season.

The underlying principles of all scientific forestry, however, are these: Save the young growth as well as the mature trees; protect the soil; encourage reproduction; fill up all possible gaps in the forest cover—do not make more by surface fires—fight all fires to a finish. Furthermore, as the forester knows, the fire-weakened, fire-scarred tree becomes almost certainly the prey of forest insects. The main points in all this are reproduction and soil protection from loss of humus and from washes; these last are so important as to deserve another little talk later.

GAME IN THE CALIFORNIA NATIONAL FOREST.

It is generally conceded that the California National Forest contains a larger number of black-tailed deer than any other locality of equal size, and that the conditions on the forest for propagation and protection are unequalled in the west. Embracing as it does large areas of heavy brush which provide protection from natural enemies and almost unlimited forage during the entire year; large glade areas which remain practically snowless during the winter months, providing an abundance of winter feed when not fed too closely by domestic stock; and large areas of open timber, well stocked with succulent weeds and grasses, it can well be said to be ideal as a locality adapted to the perpetuation of this valuable game species.

The mating season for deer on this forest ranges from late September in the foothills, to November at the higher altitudes. The bucks shed their horns from January 15 to March 15, and new growth is noticed by June 1. The horns become hard about August 1, although at the higher elevations they are still found in the velvet during the latter part of August, and even up to September 10. The fawns appear from June 1 to the end of July, and in most cases are in pairs.

There are a few black and brown bear on the forest, but they can hardly be taken seriously as a game animal. In fact they are used by unscrupulous hunters as an excuse to go into the mountains with packs of hounds during the winter season, when there is no doubt that many violations of the game laws are committed. These bears are often very troublesome to sheep permittees and settlers within the forest who raise hogs, as the older ones frequently develop predatory tendencies. It is probable, also, that they are responsible for many of the kills of deer made by panthers, as they feed on the deer killed by the panther and disturb it in such a way that it is no longer palatable to the panther, who makes a new kill.

The most important game bird on the forest is the mountain quail. It is found in all parts of the forest above the brush line which surrounds the forest on three sides, and during the past two years have shown a gratifying increase. This is attributed in part to the destruction of ground squirrels and other small egg eating animals by the United States Biological Survey.

Valley quail are common at the lower elevations, and they, also are on the increase.

The principal fur-bearing animals on this forest, and the numbers caught during the present season so far as shown by the incomplete records at hand, are as follows:

Skunk	459
Fox (gray)	337
Coyote	241
Wild cat	136
Ring-tailed cat	119
Coon	74
Civit cat	25
Fisher	23
Badger	20
Panther	6
Bear	5
River otter	4

During the past two or three seasons there has been a large increase in the number of trappers. It is estimated that there are fifty trappers on the forest during the past season.

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REPORTS.

CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1919—Continued.

Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Colusa, Glenn	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexico
Albacore										81		674,826		304		675,211	64,210
Anchovy								23,336		283,210		188,910				495,456	
Barracuda	150							26	28,863	43,425	45,421	129,868	242	104,949		352,444	1,201,366
Bluefish									2,099	12,818						14,827	
Bocaccio								14,799	61,832	181,877						258,508	
Bonito									1,169	2,284	4,969	1,002,999	187	151,208		1,252,811	498,868
Carp				9,933	34,642		4,920	33					1,875	624		52,027	
Catfish		5,587		2,060	4,122		2,771									14,560	
Chilipepper								2,271	6,808	3,149						12,228	
Coalfish								110,384	4,164	5,907						120,455	
Cultus cod	1,477							193,268	24,062	82,821						301,628	
Dogfish			47				43	41,899	544	875		15,652		78,853		137,916	
Dolphin																	
Eels																	
Flounder	353		34	118			38	69,511	1,437	2,677	100	2,847	175			77,290	
Greenfish																	
Hake								45,375								45,375	
Halibut	1,985							9,832	407	889	61,050	224,446	418	90,154		389,181	1,160,200
Hardhead					17,523		211									17,734	
Herring	577		9,160				1,420	4,072	400					100		15,729	
Kingfish			12					1,477	2,055	14,177	300	137,572		1,129		156,722	559
Mackerel			14						2,283	127,190	5,375	651,689	1,944	31,489		819,884	39,226
Marlin																	
Mullet													485	247	4,069	4,801	1,660
Perch	2,648		7,443				155	11,948	14	5,768		43,341		60		71,377	
Pike				80	678		401									1,109	
Pompano								3,928		620		6,300		173		11,023	
Rock bass											1,655	50,054	301	9,806		63,005	649
Rock fish	1,223							202,502	84,798	144,694	7,205	305,440	1,373	120,465		867,358	1,674
Salmon	984,154	941	1,435	29,851	10,838		161,275	159		67						1,138,720	

Sanddab								74,763	12,006	373		1,722				88,858	
Sardine								1,338,693	2,618,900	31,719,905		2,894,703		734,489		38,806,690	
Sculpin												6,929	571			7,500	
Sea bass (black)											333	33,166		15,915		49,414	44,361
Sea bass (white)			14,584					17,360	23,228	6,498	3,589	230,952	21	7,184		303,425	31,852
Sea trout												1,319		15		1,334	335
Shad				3,147	173		6,388	45								9,753	
Shad (buck)							45									45	
Shad (roe)																	
Sheepshead												1,412		1,036		2,448	
Skate								22,875	500			629	4			24,008	
Skipjack									1,523	541		253,975		350,523		606,562	1,450
Smelt	19,000		10,587				4,456	8,854	15,737	24,177	5,190	68,302	94,764	19,672		270,809	3,735
Sole	242							1,458,365	25,280	1,556	4,509	13,674		1,465		1,505,091	
Split tail					108		450									558	
Striped bass				38,594	6,834		47,821	4,788		75						98,112	
Stingaree																	
Suckers					2,154											2,154	
Surf fish																	
Swordfish																	
Tomcod								5,756								5,756	
Trout (farm)																	
Trout (steelhead)																	
Tuna									25	24		20,326		45,746		66,121	53,734
Tuna (blue fin)												937				937	
Tuna (yellow fin)												2,161				2,161	
Turbot			532													532	
Whitebait																	
White fish											1,505	6,924		3,547		11,776	70
Yellowtail												1,521,433	410	375,281		1,897,224	110,736
Miscellaneous			4	106			10	4,504	3,257	3,638	12,010	100,575	271	4,806		129,211	345
Total fish	961,899	6,528	43,852	83,859	77,072		230,407	3,670,292	2,920,893	32,169,346	153,211	8,683,433	103,041	2,149,356	4,069	51,257,258	3,214,970
Crustaceans—																	
Crab (doz.)	296							21,185	1	15	3					21,500	
Ecrevisse (doz.)																	
Shrimp								81,851				107				81,958	
Spiny lobster											14,372	123,894	25,940	32,431		196,637	269,434

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CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1919—Continued.

Species of fish	Del Norte. Humboldt.	Mendocino. Sonoma. Lake.	Marin.	Solano. Yolo.	Sacramento. San Joaquin.	Tehama. Colusa. Glenn.	Contra Costa. Alameda.	San Francisco. San Mateo.	Santa Cruz.	Monterey.	San Luis Obispo. Santa Barbara. Ventura.	Los Angeles.	Orange.	San Diego.	Imperial.	Total.	Mexico.
Mollusks—										155,547	19,845					175,620	
Abalones		225									460	2,908	498	18		6,428	65,905
Clam (cockle)	7-6		1,758														
Clam (mixed)	7,080	120	5,249													12,399	
Clam (Pismo)											59,057					59,907	
Clam (soft shell)	210	1,124	1,850				60,652	425								64,261	
Cuttle fish								1,033	81	2,639		100				3,853	
Mussels			209				1,248	390			489	1,426	463			4,225	
Oysters (sh ll) Eastern, No.			248,737					1,389,050								1,637,787	
Oysters (native)			17,615													17,615	
Snails																	
Squid										9,001		580				9,587	
Miscellaneous—																	
Frogs																	
Terrapin																	
Turtle																	171,000

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CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS FOR THE YEAR 1919.

Compiled by Department of Commercial Fisheries.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Glenn, Colusa	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Santa Barbara	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexican
Albacore										81		11,225,857	126	2,326,961		13,553,025	77,874
Anchovy			261,000					41,896		705,045		576,837		21,770		1,609,548	
Barracuda	150							814	31,321	67,512	137,752	2,533,258	51,796	1,216,249		4,038,852	1,786,165
Bluefish									9,750	55,046						64,796	
Bocaccio		80						61,863	104,690	1,153,078						1,319,651	
Bonito									1 169	2,306	23,714	2,534,433	1,042	341,024		2,903,688	600,358
Carp		7,115		14,154	165,722	80	57,342	14,426				50	1,875	624		261,388	
Catfish		38 625		17,323	71,878		36 322	708								164,856	
Chilipepper								207,159	7,145	17,524						231,828	
Coalfish								319,666	6 926	8,208	18	132				334,950	
Cultus cod	8,468	59,945						773,712	67,236	151,753		2,022				1,063,136	
Dogfish			355	11			885	143,564	1,239	5,177	3,005	62,416		396,031		612,683	
Dolphin																	
Eels								10								10	
Flounder	11,498		1,218	1,453			2,540	388,613	27,504	4.184	3,621	14,610	490			435,731	
Greenfish												2,405				2,405	
Hake								122,913	9,320	948						133,181	755
Halibut	19,844	106,717	808					37,784	4,576	18,584	316,864	1,465,499	60,832	492,367		2,523,895	2,335,603
Hardhead					47,634		1,627									49,291	
Herring	7,146		3,740,518				62,712	478,673	750					100		4,289,899	
Kingfish			44					41,481	35,360	71,355	1,492	449,508	104	9,127		608,561	614
Mackerel	180		14						3,518	450,717	20,294	2,037,581	15,544	126,748		2,654,596	48,086
Marlin																	
Mullet												270	485	356	6,428	7,539	1,630
Perch	27,057		55,901				273	22,495	16,491	9,933		49,839	221	9,101		191,341	1,140
Pike				519	2,840	10	3,141									6 510	
Pompano			2					4,015	1,113	867		54,924	32	471		61,424	
Rock bass											2,484	100,315	5,962	243,794		442,555	7,674
Rock fish	13,503	1,492						1,127,029	305,439	456,426	85,447	1,148,074	4,885	568,890		3,714,185	67,649
Salmon	1,458,162	2,899,603	15,571	1,732,028	314,202	220,309	2,262,509	1,427,137	499,168	2,316,854		10				13,145,553	

CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS FOR THE YEAR 1919—Continued.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Glenn, Colusa	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexican
Sanddab								628,206	5,141,869	81,447,280	54	54,600,194	25	11,183,539		153,877,179	
Sardine			141,700					1,362,518	67,885	2,602	1,394	7,890		1,821		709,788	
Sculpin												24,217	1,111	104		25,432	
Sea bass (black)											8,183	67,464	1,825	54,525		126 997	58,273
Sea bass (white)	124		27,904					23,045	317,432	18,934	29,563	1,886,454	2,631	108,650		2,359,737	74,277
Sea trout	47											15.385	15	5.576		21.023	377
Shad				56,363	89,127		26,866	9,251				25				181.632	
Shad (buck)				144,430	14,050		289,821									448,301	
Shad (roe)				176,821	16,752		750,232									943.805	
Sheepshead												7,334	842	9,796		17,972	
Skate								241,811	1,498		543	8,535	479			252,776	
Skipjack									3,173	1,884		4,089,287		2,791,025		6,885,369	12,115
Smelt	46,933		69,665				4,701	138 095	51,641	109,759	9,597	145.693	128,262	47,523		751.870	5.110
Sole	1,178	15						4,914,583	398,245	49,543	71,451	87,899		5,821		5.528.685	
Split tail					12,882		11,420									24,282	
Striped bass			1,581	206,828	72,775		371,866	108,264		1,031						762,345	
Stingaree			38,200					4,000						824		43,024	
Suckers					5,790		43									5,833	
Surf fish																	
Sword fish												17,900		352		18,252	
Tom cod								31,310								31,310	
Trout (farm)																	
Trout (steelhead)	17,217															17,217	
Tuna									25	24	17	1,993,486	854	200.178		2,194,584	266,727
Tuna (bluefin)												14,952,462		38,398		14,990.860	
Tuna (yellowfin)												348,033		58		348,091	
Turbot			1,652					463								2.115	
Whitebait			403					5,512								5,915	
White fish											1,305	18,034		7,852		27,191	70
Yellowtail											191	2.531,973	4,506	2,335,093		4,871,763	133,502
Miscellaneous	356		4	106	599		31	45,320	6,012	8,342	54,450	423,249	2,997	12,413		554,879	15,907
Total fish	1,611,863	2,113,592	4,256,541	2,350,366	814,261	220,399	3,862,331	12,760,286	7,120,345	87,127,997	703,439	108,522,604	286,041	22,552,151	6,428	250,453,244	5,493,573

Crustaceans—																	
Crab (doz.)	1,882							51,985	428	128	8					54,376	
Ecrevisse (doz.)																	
Shrimp								747,023				107				747,130	
Spiny lobster											19,465	167,680	29,852	39,897		256,894	832,571
Mollusks—																	
Abalones	450	225							740	248,056	509,732					759,203	65,905
Clam (cockle)	786		15,857								1,020	5,768	1,328	18		24,777	
Clam (mixed)	27,699	1,688	34,605					251			2,228	273				66,744	
Clam (Pismo)									175		417,340					417,515	
Clam (soft shell)	210	8,728	27,945				265,268	425								302,576	
Cuttle fish			36					6,294	1,378	9,663	137	3,984				21,492	
Limpets													8,350			8,350	
Mussels	830		209				4,947	1,155	940	925	11,677	5,424	8,888	100		35,095	
Oysters (shell) Eastern, No.			1,342,828					5,545,468								6,888,296	
Oysters (native)			91,950													91,950	
Snails												653				653	
Squid									92	3,689,299		8,406		445		3,698,242	
Miscellaneous—																	
Frogs (doz.)								328								328	
Terrapin (doz.)	2	64						84			10					160	
Turtle																	255,239

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CANNED, CURED AND MANUFACTURED FISHERY PRODUCTS OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE YEAR 1919.

Compiled by the Department of Commercial Fisheries.

CANNED.

Species of fish	Size of cans	San Diego district, cases	San Pedro district, cases	Monterey Bay district, cases	Northern California district, cases	Total cases
Abalone	1-lb.		105		2,873	2,978
Albacore	1-lb.	5,862	21,236			27,098
	½-lb.	37,855	107,822			145,677
	¼-lb.	4,152	15,325			19,477
Anchovy	½-lb.	184	32			216
Barracuda	1-lb.		8			8
Bonita	1-lb.	12	2,177			2,189
	½-lb.	4,965	34,634			39,599
	¼-lb.	287	17,108			17,395
Caviar	½-lb.		395			395
	8-oz.		374			374
Herring	1-lb. oval				28,236	28,236
	½-lb. oval				1,589	1,589
Mackerel	1-lb.	66	1,995			2,061
	½-lb.	17	6,344			6,361
	¼-lb.		988			988
Rock bass	½-lb.		10			10
Salmon	1-lb. oval			102	725	827
	1-lb. tall				1,941	1,941
	1-lb. flat				9,086	9,086
	½-lb. flat				18,667	18,667
Sardines	1-lb. oval	33,594	118,909	790,734	7,842	946,079
	1-lb. round		11,875			11,875
	1-lb. tall				7,318	7,318
	½-lb. oval	3,878	27,713	11,960		43,551
	½-lb. square	9,543	17,510	7,207		34,260
	½-lb. round	405	25,742	128		26,275
	¼-lb. round	10	3,213			3,223
	¼-lb. square	39,603	31,553	7,789		78,945
Shad	1-lb.				4,550	4,550
Shad roe	½-lb. oval				1,131	1,131
Skipjack (striped tuna)	1-lb.	3,199	750			3,949
	½-lb.	38,229	28,849			67,078
	¼-lb.	2,460	11,351			13,811
Squid	½-lb.			3,588		3,588
Tuna	4-lb.		1,906			1,906
	1-lb.	1,170	33,524			34,694
	½-lb.	14,555	291,473			306,028
	¼-lb.	2,785	119,680			122,785
Turtle		7,407				7,407
Yellowtail	1-lb.	12	350			362
	½-lb.	19,261	8,739			28,030
	¼-lb.	5				5
Total cases canned		229,466	986,969	821,448	83,758	2,071,641

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DRIED, SALTED, SMOKED AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Species of fish, size or quantity	San Diego district	San Pedro district	Monterey district	Northern California district	Total
Albacore bellies, smoked, lbs.		4.368			4.368
Anchovy, salted, lbs.		63,150	242,576	24,448	330,174
Anchovy, salted, 5-lb. cans, 24 cans to case			243		243
Anchovy, salted, 5-lb. cans, 12 cans to case			367		367
Anchovy, salted, 24-lb. cans, 6 cans to case			119		119
Anchovy, salted, 12-lb. cans, 8 cans to case			216		216
Anchovy, salted, 1½-lb. cans, 24 cans to case			200		200
Anchovy, salted, 2½-lb. cans, 12 cans to case		1,800			1.800
Barracuda, dried, lbs.	67,102				67,102
Barracuda, smoked, lbs.		2,000			2,000
Bonito, salted, lbs.		68.760			68,760
Bonito, smoked, lbs.		31 003			31.003
Cuttle fish, pickled, lbs.		3,800			3,800
Herring, smoked, lbs.				1.000	1,000
Herring, sugar cured, lbs.				1,450	1,450
Mackerel, salted, lbs.		24,842			24,842
Miscellaneous fish, dried, lbs.	51,037	46.479	15,000		112,516
Miscellaneous fish, salted, lbs.	20,000	59,079			79,079
Rollmops, 10-lb. pails				1.142	1,142
Sablefish, salted, lbs.				7,519	7,519
Sablefish, smoked, lbs.				5,400	5,400
Salachini, 100-lb. tubs			100		100
Salachini, 65-lb. tubs		740	14,370	1,362	16,472
Salachini, 45-lb. tubs			987	358	1,345
Salachini, 30-lb. tubs			4.020		4,020
Salmon, mild cured, casks*			1,044	4,153	5,197
Salmon, hard salted, casks*				30	30
Sardines, dried, lbs.			15,000		15,000
Sardines, salted, lbs.		43,982	260,500		304.482
Sardines, smoked, lbs.				2,200	2 200
Sardines, salted, 2½-lb. cans, 12 cans to case		4,000			4,000
Sardines, salted, 3-lb. cans, 24 cans to case		6,007	200		6,207
Sardines, salted, 5-lb. cans, 24 cans to case			573		573
Sardines, salted, 12-lb. cans, 8 cans to case			739		739
Sardines, salted, 24-lb. cans, 4 cans to case			450		450
Sardines, salted, 34-lb. kegs			1,600		1,600
Sea bass (black), dried, lbs.	26,830				26,830
Skipjack, smoked, lbs.		2,601			2,601
Squid, dried, lbs.			686,159		686.159
Tuna, smoked, lbs.		10.180			10.180
Yellowtail, smoked, lbs.		45,933			45,933
Fish meal, tons	1,674	5,637	3,331	481	11,153
Fish, oil, gallons	26,791	146,298	300,833	40,340	514,262
Number of plants	15	35	28	21	99
Number of employees	1,191	3,928	2.218	905	8.242
Estimated value of pack	$2,599,852	$9,694,482	$6,990,566	$2,132,843	$21,417,743
Value of plants	1,100,700	4,335,657	1,366,189	906,325	7,708,871

*Casks contain 800 pounds net.

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

October 1 to December 31, 1919.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	62	$980 00
Refusing to show license on demand	1	25 00
Making false affidavit on shipment of deer hides	1	25 00
Shipping deer meat without affidavit	3	50 00
Deer—excess limit—close season—killing or possession	22	675 00
Female deer—spike bucks—fawns—killing or possession	7	350 00
Illegal deer hides	1	
Hunting on posted grounds	1	25 00
Night shooting	30	745 00
Trapping without license—close season	4	20 00
Killing a mountain sheep	1	30 00
Protected shore birds—killing or possession	56	1,305 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	47	916 00
Shooting ducks from power boat in motion	10	150 00
Ducks—excess limit—close season	15	425 00
Quail—close season—killing or possession	36	960 00
Pigeons—close season—killing or possession	3	85 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Grouse—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Mudhens—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season	9	110 00
Total game violations	312	$6,901 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	3	$30 00
Fishing for profit without license	4	110 00
Striped bass—underweight—close season	5	120 00
Halibut—underweight—offering for sale—close season	4	75 00
Salmon—excess daily limit	1	
Taking salmon with snag hooks	2	100 00
Operating salmon net in closed district	8	200 00
Trout—excess daily limit—close season	2	50 00
Catfish—undersize—offering for sale	1	20 00
Failure to maintain fish screen	1	20 00
Clams—undersized—excess limit	4	110 00
Female crabs—taking or possession	1	20 00
Abalones—red and black—under and oversized—taking or possession	12	270 00
Lobsters—under and oversized—close season—taking or possession	12	280 00
Total fish violations	58	$1,405 00
Grand total fish and game violations	370	$8,306 00

SEIZURES—FISH AND GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

October 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919.

Game.

	Pounds
Deer meat	1,074
Quail	114
Ducks	1,067
Doves	18
Pigeons	2
Rabbits	17
Avocets	4
Killdeer plover	28
Swans	5
Sandpipers	18
Miscellaneous birds	103
Deer hides	6

Searches.

Illegal fish and game	8

Fish.

	Pounds
Striped bass	6,000
Salmon	852½
Halibut	6,621½
Trout	78
Catfish	5
Sturgeon	39
Barracuda	3,995
Miscellaneous fish	33
Clams (cockle)	916
Clams (Pismo)	456
Crabs	1,677
Lobsters	4,752
Abalones	93
Illegal nets	3

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES YEAR 1919.

	September	October	November	December
General administration	$3,170 98	$2,551 00	$2,384 00	$2,106 63
Research, publication and education	931 38	312 58	296 24	419 05
Printing	316 13	1,690 34	111 77	178 25
Fish exhibits	483 78	6,110 55	3 25	
Game exhibits				
Tahoe camping ground	37 23	8 00		
Mountain lion bounties	320 00	520 00	390 00	370 00
Lithographing hunting licenses			300 00	
Lithographing angling licenses		315 00		1,090 00
Hunting license commissions	2,400 50	3,626 80	1,544 60	2,673 90
Angling license commissions	1,322 90	1,471 90	1,242 90	2,186 60
Market fishing license commissions	131 50			149 50
San Francisco District	8,161 99	7,752 01	7,045 73	6,684 94
Sacramento District	5,830 40	5,654 19	5,322 42	5,008 57
Los Angeles District	2,996 46	3,079 82	3,094 65	2,921 47
Launch patrol	5,993 55	1,753 47	2,280 01	1,141 75
Prosecutions (fish and game)	155 89	304 75	276 50	63 00
Crawfish inspection	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00
Winter game feeding				
Accident and death claims	148 50	278 42	202 65	124 04
Hatchery administration	1,296 55	1,450 51	1,289 72	1,324 73
Mount Shasta Hatchery	2,977 87	1,696 39	2,965 24	2,135 71
Klamath Station	1,389 58	1,151 14	949 72	458 82
Fall Creek Hatchery	422 91	395 49	818 98	939 00
Mount Whitney Hatchery	2,077 83	1,878 63	2,577 64	1,139 97
Cottonwood Creek Station			236 50	
Cottonwood Lakes Station				
Tahoe Hatchery	164 98	334 10	156 11	40 15
Tallac Hatchery	587 66	5 00	8 00	5 00
Chico Experimental Station	63 75		29 00	
Fort Seward Hatchery	1,021 10	1,719 25	910 49	789 23
Eel River Station			96 25	
Ukiah Hatchery		92 00		
Snow Mountain Station	8 50	49 25	11 18	989 17
Brookdale Hatchery	151 38	147 35	156 02	257 74
Scott Creek Station	30 00	31 00	30 00	31 00
Feather River Hatchery				
Almanor Hatchery	7 00	5 00	5 00	5 00
Domingo Springs Hatchery	321 20	57 25	84 43	8 30
Clear Creek Hatchery	203 71	249 06	216 22	
Bear Lake Hatchery	1,119 38	1,432 54	1,229 62	410 50
North Creek Station	403 50	474 78	1,559 45	772 36
Wawona Hatchery			312 87	133 76
Yosemite Hatchery	250 25	219 01	328 29	44 25
Kaweah Hatchery	150 70	92 00	17 00	16 60
Fish transplanting and distribution	1,537 87	4,332 49	1,804 39	319 96
Screens, fishways and water pollution	619 79	698 84	583 86	663 38
Special field investigation		150 35	102 00	
Department of Commercial Fisheries	4,095 52	3,860 81	3,775 18	3,255 76
Totals	$51,409 66	$56,021 07	$44,848 78	$38,898 08

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

October 1 to December 31, 1919.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	62	$[illegible]
Refusing to show license on demand	1	25 00
Making false affidavit on shipment of deer hides	1	5 00
Shipping deer meat without affidavit	3	50 00
Deer—excess limit—close season—killing or possession	22	675 00
Female deer—spike bucks—fawns—killing or possession	7	350 00
Illegal deer hides	1	
Hunting on posted grounds	1	25 00
Night shooting	30	745 00
Trapping without license—close season	4	20 00
Killing a mountain sheep	1	30 00
Protected shore birds—killing or possession	56	1,305 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	47	916 00
Shooting ducks from power boat in motion	10	150 00
Ducks—excess limit—close season	15	425 00
Quail—close season—killing or possession	36	960 00
Pigeons—close season—killing or possession	3	85 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Grouse—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Muskrats—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season	9	110 00
Total game violations	312	$6 901 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	3	$30 00
Fishing for profit without license	4	110 00
Striped bass—underweight—close season	5	120 00
Halibut—underweight—offering for sale—close season	4	75 00
Salmon—excess daily limit	1	
Taking salmon with snag hooks	2	100 00
Operating salmon net—close season	8	200 00
Trout—excess daily limit—close season	2	50 00
Catfish—undersize—offering for sale	1	20 00
Failure to maintain fish ways	1	20 00
Obstruction—undersized screen	4	110 00
Female crabs—taking or possession	1	20 00
Abalones—red and black—undersized—taking or possession	12	270 00
Lobsters—undersized—taking or possession	12	380 00
Total fish violations	58	$1,405 00
Grand total fish and game violations	370	$8,306 00

MISCELLANEOUS FISH AND GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS

October 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919.

Game.		Fish.	
			Pounds
[illegible]		[illegible] bass	6,000
[illegible]		[illegible]	862½
[illegible]		[illegible]	6,621½
[illegible]		[illegible]	78
[illegible]		[illegible]	5
[illegible]		[illegible]	30
[illegible]		[illegible] and [illegible]	3,995
[illegible]		[illegible]	53
[illegible]		[illegible]	916
[illegible]		[illegible]	456
[illegible]		[illegible]	1,617
[illegible]		[illegible]	4,752
[illegible]		[illegible]	93
[illegible]		[illegible]	3

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES YEAR 1919.

	September	October	November	December
General administration	$3,170 98	$2,551 00	$2,384 00	$2,106 63
Research, publication and education	931 38	312 58	296 24	419 05
Printing	316 13	1,690 34	111 77	178 25
Fish exhibits	483 78	6,110 55	3 25	
Game exhibits				
Tahoe camping ground	37 23	8 00		
Mountain lion bounties	220 00	520 00	390 00	370 00
Lithographing hunting licenses			300 00	
Lithographing angling licenses		315 00		1,090 00
Hunting license commissions	2,400 50	3,626 50	1,544 60	2,673 90
Angling license commissions	1,322 90	1,471 90	1,242 90	2,186 60
Market fishing license commissions	131 50			149 50
San Francisco District	8,161 99	7,752 01	7,045 73	6,684 94
Sacramento District	5,830 40	5,654 19	5,322 42	5,008 57
Los Angeles District	2,996 46	3,079 82	3,094 65	2,921 47
Launch patrol	5,993 55	1,753 47	2,280 91	1,141 75
Prosecutions (fish and game)	155 89	304 75	276 50	63 00
Crawfish inspection	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00
Winter game feeding				
Accident and death claims	146 50	278 42	202 65	124 04
Hatchery administration	1,296 55	1,450 51	1,289 72	1,324 73
Mount Shasta Hatchery	2,977 87	1,696 39	2,965 24	2,135 71
Klamath Station	1,369 58	1,151 14	949 72	458 82
Fall Creek Hatchery	422 91	395 49	818 98	939 00
Mount Whitney Hatchery	2,077 83	1,878 63	2,577 64	1,139 97
Cottonwood Creek Station			236 50	
Cottonwood Lakes Station				
Tahoe Hatchery	164 98	334 10	156 11	40 15
Tallac Hatchery	587 66	5 00	8 00	5 00
Chico Experimental Station	63 75		29 00	
Fort Seward Hatchery	1,021 10	1,719 25	910 49	789 23
Eel River Station			96 25	
Ukiah Hatchery		92 00		
Snow Mountain Station	8 50	49 25	11 18	989 17
Brookdale Hatchery	151 33	147 35	156 02	257 74
Scott Creek Station	30 00	31 00	30 00	31 00
Feather River Hatchery				
Almanor Hatchery	7 00	5 00	5 00	5 00
Domingo Springs Hatchery	321 20	57 25	84 43	8 30
Clear Creek Hatchery	203 71	249 06	216 22	
Bear Lake Hatchery	1,119 38	1,432 54	1,229 62	410 50
North Creek Station	403 50	474 78	1,559 45	772 36
Wawona Hatchery			312 87	133 76
Yosemite Hatchery	250 25	219 01	328 29	44 25
Kaweah Hatchery	150 70	92 00	17 00	16 60
Fish transplanting and distribution	1,537 87	4,332 49	1,804 39	319 96
Screens, fishways and water pollution	619 79	698 84	583 86	663 38
Special field investigation		150 35	102 00	
Department of Commercial Fisheries	4,095 52	3,860 81	3,775 18	3,255 76
Totals	$51,409 66	$56,021 07	$44,848 78	$38,898 08

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

October 1 to December 31, 1919.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	62	$930 00
Refusing to show license on demand	1	25 00
Making false affidavit on shipment of deer hides	1	25 00
Shipping deer meat without affidavit	3	50 00
Deer—excess limit—close season—killing or possession	22	675 00
Female deer—spike bucks—fawns—killing or possession	7	350 00
Illegal deer hides	1	
Hunting on posted grounds	1	25 00
Night shooting	30	745 00
Trapping without license—close season	4	20 00
Killing a mountain sheep	1	30 00
Protected shore birds—killing or possession	56	1,305 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	47	916 00
Shooting ducks from power boat in motion	10	150 00
Ducks—excess limit—close season	15	425 00
Quail—close season—killing or possession	36	960 00
Pigeons—close season—killing or possession	3	85 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Grouse—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Mudhens—close season—killing or possession	1	25 00
Cottontail and brush rabbits—close season	9	110 00
Total game violations	312	$6,901 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	8	$30 00
Fishing for profit without license	4	110 00
Striped bass—underweight—close season	5	120 00
Halibut—underweight—offering for sale—close season	4	75 00
Salmon—excess daily limit	1	
Taking salmon with snag hooks	2	100 00
Operating salmon net in closed district	8	200 00
Trout—excess daily limit—close season	2	50 00
Catfish—undersize—offering for sale	1	20 00
Failure to maintain fish screen	1	20 00
Clams—undersized—excess limit	4	110 00
Female crabs—taking or possession	1	20 00
Abalones—red and black—under and oversized—taking or possession	12	270 00
Lobsters—under and oversized—close season—taking or possession	12	280 00
Total fish violations	58	$1,405 00
Grand total fish and game violations	370	$8,306 00

SEIZURES—FISH AND GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

October 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919.

Game.

	Pounds
Deer meat	1,074
Quail	114
Ducks	1,087
Doves	18
Pigeons	2
Rabbits	17
Avocets	4
Killdeer plover	28
Swans	5
Sandpipers	18
Miscellaneous birds	103
Deer hides	6

Searches.

Illegal fish and game	8

Fish.

	Pounds
Striped bass	6,000
Salmon	852½
Halibut	6,621½
Trout	78
Catfish	5
Sturgeon	89
Barracuda	3,995
Miscellaneous fish	33
Clams (cockle)	916
Clams (Pismo)	456
Crabs	1,627
Lobsters	4,752
Abalones	98
Illegal nets	3

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES YEAR 1919.

	September	October	November	December
General administration	$3,170 98	$2,551 00	$2,384 00	$2,105 63
Research, publication and education	931 38	312 58	296 24	419 05
Printing	316 13	1,690 34	111 77	178 25
Fish exhibits	483 78	6,110 55	3 25	
Game exhibits				
Tahoe camping ground	37 23	8 00		
Mountain lion bounties	320 00	520 00	390 00	370 00
Lithographing hunting licenses			300 00	
Lithographing angling licenses		315 00		1,090 00
Hunting license commissions	2,400 50	3,626 80	1,544 60	2,673 90
Angling license commissions	1,322 90	1,471 90	1,242 90	2,186 60
Market fishing license commissions	131 50			149 50
San Francisco District	8,161 99	7,752 01	7,045 73	6,684 94
Sacramento District	5,830 40	5,654 19	5,322 42	5,008 57
Los Angeles District	2,996 46	3,079 82	3,094 65	2,921 47
Launch patrol	5,993 55	1,753 47	2,280 91	1,141 75
Prosecutions (fish and game)	155 89	304 75	276 50	63 00
Crawfish inspection	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00
Winter game feeding				
Accident and death claims	146 59	278 42	202 65	124 04
Hatchery administration	1,296 55	1,450 51	1,289 72	1,324 73
Mount Shasta Hatchery	2,977 87	1,696 39	2,965 24	2,135 71
Klamath Station	1,369 58	1,151 14	949 72	458 82
Fall Creek Hatchery	422 91	395 49	818 98	939 00
Mount Whitney Hatchery	2,077 83	1,878 63	2,577 64	1,139 97
Cottonwood Creek Station			236 50	
Cottonwood Lakes Station				
Tahoe Hatchery	164 98	334 10	156 11	40 15
Tallac Hatchery	587 66	5 00	8 00	5 00
Chico Experimental Station	63 75		29 00	
Fort Seward Hatchery	1,021 10	1,719 25	910 49	789 28
Eel River Station			96 25	
Ukiah Hatchery		92 00		
Snow Mountain Station	8 50	49 25	11 18	989 17
Brookdale Hatchery	151 33	147 35	156 02	257 74
Scott Creek Station	30 00	31 00	30 00	31 00
Feather River Hatchery				
Almanor Hatchery	7 00	5 00	5 00	5 00
Domingo Springs Hatchery	321 20	57 25	84 43	8 30
Clear Creek Hatchery	203 71	249 06	216 22	
Bear Lake Hatchery	1,119 38	1,432 54	1,229 62	410 50
North Creek Station	403 50	474 78	1,559 45	772 36
Wawona Hatchery			312 87	133 76
Yosemite Hatchery	250 25	219 01	328 29	44 25
Kaweah Hatchery	150 70	92 00	17 00	16 60
Fish transplanting and distribution	1,537 87	4,332 49	1,804 39	319 95
Screens, fishways and water pollution	619 79	698 84	583 86	603 38
Special field investigation		150 35	102 00	
Department of Commercial Fisheries	4,095 52	3,860 81	3,775 18	3,255 76
Totals	$51,409 66	$56,021 07	$44,848 78	$38,898 08

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

July 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919.

Administration:		
Commissioners	$1,220 59	
Executive officers	14,015 36	
Printing	2,270 70	
Research and publicity	2,591 03	
Accident and death claims	1,159 88	
Total administration		$21,257 56
Commercial fish culture and conservation:		
Superintendence	$6,333 89	
Inspection and patrol	15,400 37	
Research	9,298 34	
Statistics	4,885 79	
Market fishing license commissions	374 00	
Propagation and distribution of salmon	14,464 25	
Total commercial fish culture and conservation		50,756 64
Sporting fish culture and conservation:		
Superintendence	$7,543 07	
Printing	1,596 79	
Prosecutions and allowances	72 00	
Angling license commissions	8,329 20	
Special field investigations	252 35	
Fish exhibits	7,167 16	
General patrol (pro rata share)—		
San Francisco District (40 per cent)	17,757 55	
Sacramento District (40 per cent)	14,990 67	
Los Angeles District (40 per cent)	7,030 02	
Propagation and distribution of sporting fish	73,538 47	
Total sporting fish culture and conservation		138,277 28
Game conservation:		
Printing	$2,396 07	
Prosecutions and allowances	868 14	
Hunting license commissions	12,397 80	
Mountain lion hunting	2,837 13	
General patrol (pro rata share)—		
San Francisco District (60 per cent)	26,638 35	
Sacramento District (60 per cent)	22,486 01	
Los Angeles District (60 per cent)	10,545 04	
Total game conservation		78,161 54
Tahoe camping ground		2,509 11
Total expenditures		$291,052 12

Further information regarding details of expenditures will be gladly furnished upon application to the executive office of the Fish and Game Commission, San Francisco, California.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 6 | SACRAMENTO, JULY, 1920 | Number 3

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KING SALMON MARKING EXPERIMENT AT KLAMATH RIVER, 1919.

By W. L. SCOFIELD.

Source of Eggs.

The Chinook or king salmon used in this experiment were from eggs taken by Mr. Hurby of the United States Bureau of Fisheries at the substation on Mill Creek, Tehama County, California, near the town of Tehama about twelve miles south of Red Bluff. Mill Creek is a tributary of the Sacramento River. The eggs were taken about the latter part of November, 1918.

Shipping.

The eyed eggs were shipped in one shipment of 1,153,000 eggs. Though originally billed to the Mount Shasta Hatchery, they were not unloaded but shipped immediately to the new Fall Creek Hatchery on Fall Creek near Copco, Siskiyou County, about sixteen miles from

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Hornbrook. The eggs were received at the Fall Creek Hatchery February 13, 1919.

Hatching.

The eggs were hatched at Fall Creek Hatchery from the middle to the end of February, 1919. About July 1, 1919, 25,000 of these small king salmon were placed in the cement-sided pond at Fall Creek Hatchery and the others were liberated in Fall Creek, which is a tributary of the Klamath River, entering just below the California-Oregon Power Company dam at Copco. The hatchery is about a mile up Fall Creek from its mouth.

Mark Used.

The *adipose* and *right ventral* fins were removed by clipping off close to the body with a pair of manicurists' cuticle nippers. The marking, begun November 3 and completed November 15, 1919, was done by L. Phillips of the Department of Fish Culture and W. L. Scofield of the Department of Commercial Fisheries of the Fish and Game Commission of California.

Variation in Size.

Although from the same brood, hatchery practice and rearing pond, there was great variation in the size of the yearlings at the time of marking, the extremes in length being from $1\frac{3}{16}$ to 5 inches, measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the central rays of the caudal fin. The small fish, roughly those under two inches in length, were not marked but sorted out as the marking proceeded. These small fish were liberated every day or two.

Counting and Separation.

As 250,000 fish had been counted into the rearing pond, no count was made of unmarked fish while marking. The marked fish were carefully counted each day. Mr. Phillips kept tally of his work while marking. Mr. Scofield counted his work at the end of the half day. In each case at the end of the day the fish marked by each person were placed in a separate trough.

Liberations.

The first fish marked were held to the end of the fifth day in the trough to determine the effect of rough handling. As no injury showed in the fish, the first five days marking was liberated at the end of the fifth day and from then on the marked fish were liberated each day or two. All liberations were made in Fall Creek. November 14 the rearing pond was emptied, thus liberating all the unmarked fish of the 250,000 except a few held in the hatchery troughs. The following day all remaining unmarked fish were liberated.

Control.

In order to determine the possible percentage of fin regeneration, a sample of each half day's marking was retained as a control to be held in the hatchery trough. The control from each person's marking was

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held in a separate trough. Control fish were obtained by dipping out a few fish with a net and counting out fifty or so without conscious selection. Great care was used in this respect so that the control would be exactly representative of the size classes of marked fish in order that the control might be used for possible future study. The control remained two months in the hatchery troughs from the time of marking until the middle of January, 1920. The control fish were then bottled in formalin and shipped to Professor J. O. Snyder of Stanford University, being received by him January 19, 1920. Through an oversight when bottling the control at the hatchery, the fish marked by Phillips and those marked by Scofield were not kept separate, but since the percentage of regeneration has been found to be almost negligible this attempt to determine the regeneration percentage for each person's marking was scarcely necessary. Roughly, 100 of the control marked by Scofield were shipped to Professor Snyder for his study very soon after the marking and received by him December 1, 1919. Of the 25,850 fish marked 850, or roughly 3 per cent of the total were retained as control, thus leaving an even 25,000 marked fish to be liberated.

Percentage of Fin Regeneration.

To determine the percentage of fins which might be expected to regenerate, the control was examined by W. L. Scofield in February, 1920, with the help of Professor Snyder and Mr. Willis Rich of the United States Bureau of Fisheries. Of the 573 specimens examined but 8 or 1.4 per cent showed signs of possible regeneration and in several of these cases the resulting ventral fin would probably be so deformed as to be recognizable as a mark when found with a missing adipose fin. In no case had the adipose fin shown any sign of regenerating.

Injury from Marking.

But one death was noted among the marked fish soon after marking and none among the control from November 3 to 15, 1919. A report in December from the hatchery stated that the control was apparently perfectly normal and healthy with very few deaths. A few fish were stunned by the rough handling while being marked but when returned to the water would swim off after about one minute and show no further signs of discomfort.

Summary.

Of 1,153,000 king salmon eggs taken in November, 1918, from Mill Creek of the Sacramento, and hatched at Fall Creek Hatchery on the Klamath River in February, 1919, 903,000 were liberated in the Klamath about July 1, 1919, and 250,000 were held in a rearing pond. In November, 1919, the 250,000 from the rearing pond were liberated in the Klamath River after 25,000 of them had been marked by removing *adipose* and *right ventral* fins.

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King Salmon Marked at Fall Creek Hatchery.

Date	Number of fish marked	
	By Scofield	By Phillips
1919—November 3	243	1,172
November 4	713	
November 5	595	1,046
November 6	760	1,106
November 7	1,050	1,425
November 8	800	750
November 9	925	1,250
November 10	1,100	1,000
November 11	1,100	1,200
November 12	1,350	1,800
November 13	1,550	1,650
November 14	1,110	1,500
November 15	330	825
Totals	11,626	14,224
Total marked		25,850

Control Counted Out from the Total.

Date	From Scofield marking	From Phillips marking
1919—November 6	50	50
November 9	50	50
November 10	100	100
November 12	125	125
November 13	50	50
November 14	25	25
November 15	25	25
Totals	425	425
Total control		850

Number of Marked Fish Liberated in Fall Creek in November, 1919.

Date	Number
1919—November 7	5,525
November 8	1,625
November 9	4,675
November 10	1,900
November 12	5,200
November 13	3,100
November 14	2,500
November 15	825
Total	25,600

GAME IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY IN 1853.*

A Little Journal of Incidents Whilst on a Surveying Party with von Schmidt, Deputy Surveyor under Colonel Jack Hays, in the Fall of 1853, on the Tulare Plains.

By Colonel Andrew J. Grayson.

Meeting my friend von Schmidt, a German by birth but raised in the United States, and at that time deputy surveyor, one day as I was walking down one of the streets of San Francisco, and whom I hadn't seen for a long time, I shook him cordially by the hand, when he told me he was just making preparations for a long trip to the Tulare plains and lakes to survey the Standard lines (government survey), and as I had never been in this portion of California, and having heard oft of the great quantities of game in this region of the country interesting to the

*Between the years 1846 and 1869 there lived in California a naturalist and artist of so great attainment that he became known as the "Audubon of the Pacific." This naturalist was Colonel A. J. Grayson. Born in Louisiana, on the banks of the picturesque Ouachita River, hemmed in by pine forests and cane brakes, Grayson spent most of his boyhood days rambling in the woods or along the banks of the river. While still a child he manifested great talent in the drawing and painting of birds and the wild life scenes with which he was so intimately acquainted; but this was most vehemently discouraged by his parents and he was sent away to school to learn to be more practical. After finishing college young Grayson made an attempt at business, but he had no love for the drudgery of mercantile pursuits. He found no pleasure but in the study of nature, so he gave it up and determined to go to California where his longing for new objects of study in nature's unexplored recesses might be satisfied.

And so it was that about the middle of April, 1846, he found himself at the head of a caravan composed of many well known pioneers setting out on the long overland journey to the Pacific. But as they traveled westward some branched off

adventurer, from the fact of its never having been but little explored save by the few wild Indians that live about the lakes, I at once proposed acompanying him on this interesting trip. Von Schmidt was glad to have me go, so I made up my mind to do so, for I hadn't had a hunt for a long time.

So on the evening of the sixteenth of September, 1853, we took the good little steamer "Sophia" from San Francisco bound for Stockton. At Stockton we secured wagon, mules and camping equipment and on September 18 our party started on their journey.

At noon of the second day out we reached the Stanislaus River—at Heath and Emery's ferry—where we had our lunch, forded the river and took the Mariposa road. The day was intensely warm and the road heavy and dusty, as it wound through the low hills, sparsely covered with oak and brush. After a few miles we saw a large track of a grizzly which seemed to have just crossed the road. After tracking him through the woods for a while I came to the conclusion that the old Growler had made tracks to the river to quench his thirst and cool his hide, for the day was melting hot and the hills around parched. I couldn't conceive what brought him so far from water at that time of day—and such a day!

We made an uneventful camp that night and by sunrise the next day (September 20) were on our way. We crossed the Tuolumne River at Dickinson's ferry and camped on a creek that night. On September 21 we reached the Merced River at "Snelings," where we camped and caught our first fish and killed our first game—a few quail. The fish were full of fine bones—the same kind I have seen in all the fresh water streams in California—and a very poor fish to eat.

Leaving the river about six miles farther up, we proceeded toward the foothills. As yet we had seen no game larger than quail, but as we advanced towards the wilds the country became more interesting. On September 26 we reached old Stearns' cabin, where we camped. Here I shot quail and doves and one of the boys killed a hare. On the next day we proceeded toward the Chowchilla River, where von Schmidt received instructions from the Surveyor General and commenced his surveying work. Here I went out hunting in the low hills for antelope and came across a herd of them, but they were so wild I could not get near enough to shoot one. Later we camped on the Fresno, then a dry bed, but with a few water holes. Here we saw a large band of wild horses—probably fifty in number—and they went snorting and charging

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in different courses, notably the Donner party; others fell away; and finally Colonel Grayson, with his wife and child and one horse, completed the journey alone.

Almost needless to say, Colonel Grayson, like almost every one else in those early days of California, went to the "diggings" and was so far successful as to be considered one of the wealthy men of San Francisco at one time. His attempts at mercantile pursuits, however, proved failures, as before. The wilds called to him and he determined to renounce business again and adopt the life of a trapper, which would afford him opportunities for the study of ornithology. One of his best known works is his "Birds of the Pacific Slope," which is profusely illustrated with colored drawings, the work of his own hand. So fine were some of these drawings that the State Fair at Sacramento awarded him a special premium "for superior drawings of native birds of California, exhibited at the Fair, 1855."

This noted artist and naturalist, in his various wanderings for the purpose of studying wild life, accepted in 1853 an invitation from a friend to accompany a surveying party to the plains of Tulare County. The accompanying extracts, slightly revised, are from a diary kept by Grayson which refer to the abundance of game prevalent in that region at the time of the trip. The handwritten journal is deposited in the Bancroft Library, of the University of California, and acknowledgement is here made of the courtesy of the Library in allowing its publication.—Editor.

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in a circle around us, and then away over the plains. Here also I saw numbers of antelope, but they were too wild to approach.

On September 30 we forded the San Joaquin at Beals' Indian Farm, where we caught salmon and other fish, which appeared in great quantities. Some five or six miles up the river we saw some whooping cranes, a few ducks, heard a mocking bird, and saw antelope. I shot a duck and a hare.

On October 3 and 4 we passed over rolling land, running due north to the Fourth Standard and passing Kings River Slough. On these days we saw great numbers of antelope and wild horses and also a silver grey fox—the first one I had seen this side of the Rockies. At Kings River Slough we killed some bitterns, also saw ducks, black curlews and various other water birds. Fishing also was good. At this slough also we met Indians, and one of them undertook to conduct us on a hunt for elk. With our Indian guide we went westerly toward the Tularies, between Kings River Slough and Kings River. These lands were literally perforated by gophers, moles and other underground inhabitants, and the air was infested with mosquitoes. On this trip we saw great quantities of quail, also the tracks of a grizzly, but found nothing but the *signs* of elk. Our Indian guide, who was on foot, while we rode horseback, became tired out and we returned to camp on the slough.

Von Schmidt continued surveying operations along the Kings, during which time we saw large herds of antelope. Then we proceeded to the main branch of the Kaweah River, to Woodville, the county seat of Tulare County. All branches of the Kaweah abound with fish, and wood ducks were plentiful. Bear signs were everywhere and we killed a cub while in the Kaweah country.

Later, leaving the Kaweah country, we continued to Tula Swamp, where we found signs of elk, but no elk were actually seen. At Tula Slough Creek we found quantities of fish, and I saw for the first time here a roadrunner. Here we killed a few hares, the only game seen.

On October 16 we began our journey over stretches of alkaline desert, under a sweltering sun, and with mirages mocking us in every direction, toward the great Tulare Lake. We reached this lake early in the evening, in time to kill quantities of ducks, snipe, geese and black curlew before dark. We also killed two antelope and a number of hare. We feasted that night after our desert travels. We found all kinds of waterfowl, antelope and hare in abundance around Tulare Lake. And it was here that I killed our first elk. We had gone on a little excursion from the lake (exactly on the line of the Seventh Standard Parallel, about three miles distant), when I saw a herd of four large buck elk. My first shot brought one down, and the others did not seem frightened nor run, and I am sure we could have shot more, but we did not need the meat.

The Indians on Tulare Lake were greatly perturbed over our visit. They feared that we might contemplate squatting on their land. And they were pleased when we told them (through a Spanish interpreter) that we had no such intentions. In fact, the whole country we had traveled over since we left the Four Creeks (Kaweah River) to Tulare Lake is totally unfit for any purpose and can never be settled by anybody but hunters or Indians. And we assured the Indians they need not fear squatters, as no white man would ever want their land.

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On October 31 our surveying operations brought us to the main Kern River. Here we found any quantity of elk and waterfowl, and such a place for hunters I never saw! The mallard duck abounded, but of every description of waterfowl my pen could scarcely describe the numbers, or the excitement they would create in the breast of a sportsman. Your ears are confused with the many sounds—the quacking of the mallard, the soft and delicate whistle of the baldpate and teal, the underground-like notes of the rail or marsh hen, the flute-like notes of the wild goose and brant, the wild ranting of the heron, not to forget the bugle-like notes of the whooping crane and swan and a thousand other birds mingling their songs together—creates that indescribable sensation of pleasure that can only be felt by one fond of nature in its wildest and most beautiful form.

We crossed the Kern and went on to Lake Buena Vista. We found the immediate vicinity of this beautiful lake on the side of our approach (from the west) devoid of life, save for the little ground squirrel and the little desert sparrow. Later, however, we found great quantities of white geese and other waterfowl of every description on the southeast shores of Lake Buena Vista. In fact, so great was the number that out of ten shots fired one hundred and eighty-five fowl were killed.

It was here at Lake Buena Vista that von Schmidt completed his surveying operations and we made a quick and uneventful trip to our homes in San Francisco.

NOTES ON DRY-FLY FISHING. No. 4.

By R. L. M., California.

SCENE: In the hills in California. TIME: Present.

Dramatis personæ:

CLERK OF THE HOTEL.
ANGLER.
TOURIST.

Clerk: Here comes the angler. He can tell you all about that dry-fly stuff they were discussing last night. Angler, let me make you acquainted with Tourist. He wants you to tell him all you know about these dry-flies.

Angler: Well, I'll do my best. (To Tourist.) Are you going fishing today?

Tourist: No, my party is going up to Pine Lake, and as I have had enough riding in a machine to last me a long time, I'm taking a day off and going to loaf round the hotel—unless something better turns up.

Angler: How about coming out with me, then? We shall have the whole day and you can see just how the game is played.

Tourist: I shall be delighted to do so, and I am sure I shall know something about dry-fly fishing when the day is over.

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Angler: When can you be ready to start?

Tourist: I am ready now. We have only three rods in the party, and all three are to be used up at the lake. All I need is to get a lunch put up—that won't take me long.

Angler: Well, let's pull out. We have about half an hour's walk before we get to the best part of the river, but a machine will bring us back in the afternoon.

Not fishing yourself, you will have a good chance to really find out something useful about the art. Usually, when anyone comes out with me, they insist on bringing their own rod. The result is, that after about five minutes of instruction, they want to fish themselves; as a consequence they learn very little.

Tourist: I come from Idaho. There we have very good fishing, provided you get well away from the towns.

While we were sitting around the fire last night, this dry-fly talk came up; it mystified me, for I had never heard of it before. Now, just exactly, what is dry-fly fishing?

Angler: I dare say you have noticed that the various insects, such as flies, beetles, or grasshoppers, always float on the surface of the water. Now, the imitations of these insects, known as artificial flies, are made of silk, feathers, fur and other substances. In order to catch the fish, these materials are ballasted with a hook. Now, as long as we can keep our artificial fly dry, it will float on the surface and thus be in much the same position as the natural insect.

Dry-fly fishing simply consists of keeping the fly dry, and if it gets wet, of drying it again as quickly as possible.

Tourist: It sounds simple, but how can it be done? I know that the first time I cast a new fly into the water it floats, but the second or third cast sinks the fly.

Angler: First of all, we put some oil on the fly to keep the water off it. Then, we grease the line, so that the line itself will float. And then, if the fly does get wet, which is not exactly an uncommon experience, instead of returning the fly to the water, on the next cast, we check the fly before it gets there and make a series of false casts backwards and forwards in the air. These false casts drive off any moisture that has collected on the fly and on the line; so that when we do return the fly to the water, it is practically as dry as it was at first.

Tourist: We got in yesterday and had lunch at the hotel. Afterwards, we drove down in this direction and went fishing. I noticed swarms of grasshoppers on the water. The trout were taking them, but they would not look at our flies. We even caught some 'hoppers and tried them, but it was no good; so we packed up and came back to the hotel. Why was it we couldn't catch any fish?

Angler: Well, when you tried flies, you were trying to coax the fish away from a very tempting morsel—viz, the grasshopper—with something that did not attract them at all. And when you used grasshoppers, I dare say, you noticed that your grasshoppers always sank below the surface of the water, whereas an unhooked 'hopper floated on the surface. Then again, the leaders you were using may have been too heavy or thick. These trout are very wise. They are fished for continuously all through the season; it is only natural to suppose that

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they learn a little by bitter experience. If you could have kept your 'hoppers on top of the water and made them float with the stream in a natural manner you would, in all probability, have gotten some fish.

Tourist: We are getting near where we were yesterday. I recognize that grove of pine trees, but I don't see as many grasshoppers in the air as I did yesterday.

Angler: It is a little early yet. In an hour's time you will see just as many flying as you did yesterday.

Well, here we are at the river.

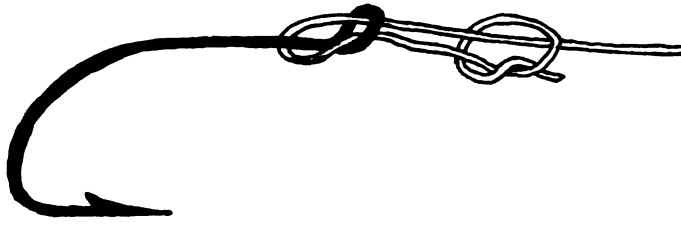

FIG. 29. Proper knot for tying large fly hook to leader.

There surely aren't many 'hoppers floating down yet. But we needn't worry, there will be hundreds later on. In the meantime, I will put my rod together and get ready for the fray.

Tourist: I notice that you have put your reel on with the handle pointing to the left. Are you left handed?

Angler: No, but I hold the rod with my right hand and wind up the line with the left. It is awkward at first, but one soon gets used to it, and I need not point out the advantage of being able to wind up the line without having to change the rod to the left hand, as you will see so many people doing.

Tourist: How long is that leader? Isn't it rather too light to handle a good sized fish?

Angler: The leader is 9 feet long. Although it only has a breaking strain of 2½ pounds, it is quite strong enough for the average big fish

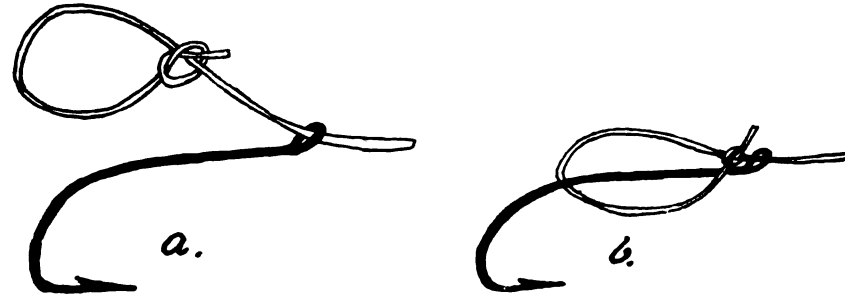

FIG. 30. The "turle" knot, one often used.

hereabouts. I do not expect to get anything much over 5 pounds. Of course, if one got hold of a really big fish, such as 10 or 11 pounds, one would have to be extra careful, but with ordinary luck and management, it is not impossible to land a large trout on a leader such as this.

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Let us sit down here and watch up and down stream for the first sign of a feeding fish.

Tourist: Why not begin fishing now?

Angler: Until you see the fish feeding on top, it is not much good trying to get them with a fly. But in a very short time you will see grasshoppers floating down stream and the fish will begin to feed.

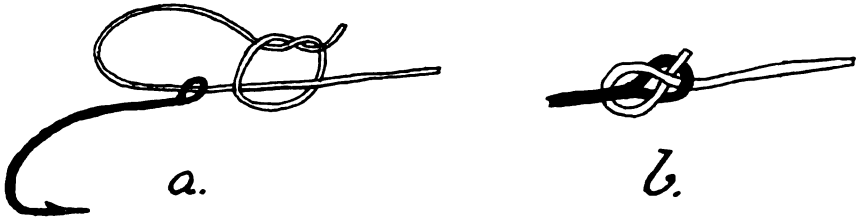

FIG. 31. Jam knots for tying small fly hooks to leader.

Tourist: What kind of a fly are you going to use?

Angler: This one here. I call it "the floating grasshopper fly," and although it does not look very much like a real 'hopper when it is floating on the surface, it has a strong resemblance to a grasshopper in a similar position.

Tourist: How do you tie the fly on to the leader?

Angler: There are several knots that can be used. This first knot is the best for larger flies (fig. 29); then, there is this one (fig 30) known as the "turle" knot, and finally the two jam knots (figs. 31 and 32). These last two are used for small flies.

Now, I will make a cast on that shallow water; you will notice how the fly floats and you must admit that it does look like a grasshopper.

Tourist: Yes, the resemblance is very strong. I see your line is floating as well.

Angler: If you remember, after I had put my rod together and threaded the line through the guides, I pulled off about 40 feet and rubbed the line down with this little pad which is anointed with deer

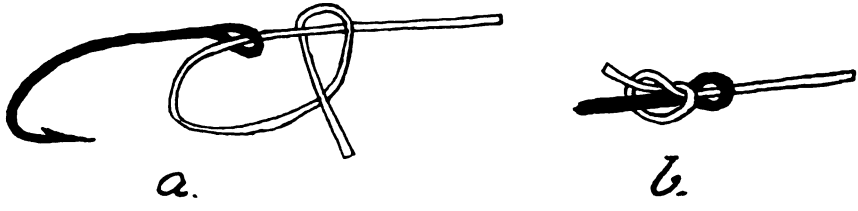

FIG. 32. A simple jam knot suitable for fastening a small fly hook to leader.

fat. That is what makes the line float, and if the line did not float it would be much more difficult to either keep the fly dry or to sail the fly accurately down over a feeding fish. Now, I will drown the fly. It is quite wet now, but just watch while I dry it. I make the forward cast—but well up in the air—and before the fly has time to fall on the water I make the back stroke again. I do this several times. Finally, I cast the fly—you see it is dry now—and it floats. Watch it.

Tourist: That looks easy enough!

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Angler: Would you care to try? But before you do, just watch me again and note that I allow the line to become fairly well extended both in front and behind before I make the next stroke. Then, too, I must caution you to make your strokes with deliberation and only to use the wrist and forearm when casting. Now try.

Tourist: Well, what happened then? What made the line strike the water?

Angler: You made your forward stroke too long. In other words, you should have checked the rod before it had gone very far beyond the vertical. Shorten the line a bit and try again.

Tourist: That is better. I seem to be getting on to it now. What was that splash over there, just below that willow?

Angler: That was a fish. We will let him have a few more real 'hoppers before we try him with an imitation one. Until the fish are feeding steadily, they are rather particular as to what they take, but as soon as they have taken a few 'hoppers without any accidents they are willing to look at a fly.

Tourist: Did you see that? He took another.

Angler: Let's crawl up and get a little closer to him—never cast an inch further than you have to. Now we are in position. Watch closely and see just where he takes down the 'hoppers. There, he got that one all right! Now, run your eye up along the surface for two or three feet and locate the spot where the fly should fall so that it will float over the spot where the fish took that last 'hopper. Well, that place up stream is where our fly must fall so that it will come down over Mr. Fish in a natural manner.

Tourist: There, he has taken another!

Angler: Well, here goes. We'll try for him. I make a preliminary cast in the air just above the surface to see if my line is long enough or otherwise. Not quite enough, so I will pull off a little more; that is about right. Now watch the fly. It is getting close. Yes! He has it!

Tourist: That is a good fish. See him jump?

Angler: Will you land the fish when I bring it in? Put the net well down into the water, and with one motion lift the net and scoop out the fish.

Tourist: All right, give me the net.

Angler: All ready? Here comes the fish.

Tourist: Say, that fish must weigh two pounds. Why don't you bring it in?

Angler: Never try to land a fish until it is all in, because if you do, in its struggles, it is very liable to catch the leader on the net and then it will break loose.

Tourist: How can you tell when the fish is played out?

Angler: Whenever you see a fish turn on its side, it is a sign that the fight is over. See that! He showed his side then. He is almost finished. Here he comes. Take your time and don't get excited. Well done! You've got it all right.

Tourist: Why do you knock the fish on the head?

Angler: To kill it. It not only puts an end to the fish's sufferings, but the fish will keep better.

Tourist: How much does it weigh?

Angler: One and a half pounds.

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Tourist: Is that all? I should have thought it was fully two pounds.

Angler: You will notice now, there are many more 'hoppers on the water, and look, you can see fish feeding on them all up and down the river. See, there is a fish I want you to catch.

Tourist: Now, tell me just what to do. Where shall I drop the fly?

Angler: The current is a little stronger here, so you had better drop the fly about three feet above the fish. To be exact, just in line with that little willow shoot. But, before you make your cast just cast well off to one side, where there will be no danger of frightening the fish, so as to see how the line is for length.

Tourist: The fly has sunk. Why was that?

Angler: I expect you aimed at a spot on the surface, whereas, you should have tried to cast your fly in the air so as to strike a spot about a foot above the surface. Then, the fly would have fallen on the water gently.

Tourist: Will you dry the fly?

Angler: All right, but watch me closely. I throw the fly straight out in front, then back and keep it moving quickly. Now it is dry. Try again.

Tourist: That is in the right spot. Here it comes over the fish; no good.

Angler: You made a mistake then. When your fly has passed over a feeding fish without any notice being taken of it, let the fly float well down below the fish before you lift the line off the water.

Tourist: Shall I try again?

Angler: No, I guess that fish is scared. We will move on and try for that fish that has just made such a splash behind that weed. But don't try from above; get below the fish and cast up stream.

Tourist: How is this? I think I can reach him from here.

Angler: Take your time; wait till the fish has taken another 'hopper; then you can locate him exactly.

Tourist: There, he got that one, so here goes the fly.

Angler: Ah, that ought to get him. He's got it! But what did you do?

Tourist: The leader broke and the fly is gone.

Angler: I expect you struck too hard. Well, let us move down a bit while I tie on another fly.

When you strike a fish do not strike as though you wanted to throw the fish out; just make a slight upward motion with the rod and as soon as you feel any resistance check the motion; then, keep a tight line on the fish, but do not try to see how much strain the tackle will stand; just keep an even strain on the fish and keep the fish moving.

Striking is really the most difficult thing to become proficient in. If we were using ordinary gut, which is two or three times stronger than what we are using, it would be much easier to successfully hook a fish; but the stouter gut would be much more visible to the fish and in all probability we should not have many opportunities to strike at a rising fish.

Another thing to remember is this, big trout should not be struck as quickly as you would strike smaller fish. The movements of the larger fish are, to a certain extent, deliberate. As a rule, there are no very near neighbors who might snatch the tempting morsel away.

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Whereas, a small fish has generally numerous relatives close by, all of whom are on the lookout for anything that looks good.

Now come carefully round this piece of brush and get down and crawl up towards the bank.

Tourist: Well, look at that fish, you can see the spots on him. Try and catch him.

Angler: Wait a minute; let's watch him feed; maybe we can learn something useful by watching him. If you notice, there is a patch of weed that comes almost to the surface. This restricts the stream and makes a little stretch of sharp current close under the bank. The fish keeps his position just at the lower end of this sharper stream and faces up stream watching for 'hoppers. Here comes a 'hopper. See the fish move a little to one side. Then see, just at the right moment he'll come to the surface and take it down.

Tourist: That certainly is a fine fish; look at him! Say, try and catch him.

Angler: All right, here goes. Well, did you see that? There was a real grasshopper a little nearer the fish than my fly was and he took that and never even noticed the fly.

Well, I'll try again when there are no real 'hoppers in sight to distract his attention.

Now is the time: watch the fly.

Tourist: Good, he's taken it.

Angler: Keep down; don't show yourself to the fish till you have to. You go down to that point of gravel and I'll bring the fish in. But don't stand up till you have the fish in the net.

Tourist: He is trying to get into those weeds.

Angler: Yes, he knows that once there, he has a good chance of getting off.

He's beginning to get tired now, but as this is a good sized fish I shall not bring him in until he is quite worn out.

See that? He turned on his side; but it's not quite time yet, he has straightened up again. However, it won't be long now. There, put the net down low in the water and I will bring the fish in.

Tourist: Say, that's some fish! See what he weighs.

Angler: Three and a quarter pounds, and only 18¼ inches long.

Now, I want you to catch something. Before we begin fishing again, I'll break the fly off and tie it on again.

Tourist: Why do you do that?

Angler: Because the gut has necessarily become weakened at the knot. Also you see how slimy and wet the fly is. It does not look as though it would ever be dry again. I'll just slam the fly onto the water and jerk it through a few times; that will wash the slime off. Next I'll press the fly between this little pad. It is almost dry now, but to complete the drying process, while we're walking down to the next feeding fish I'll make some false casts in the air. I am going to cast the fly on that shallow water. What did I tell you? It's absolutely 'bone dry' again.

Tourist: What is that little pad made of?

Angler: It is a piece of *amadou*, which is a fungus with the properties of absorbing moisture very rapidly.

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Tourist: Something like blotting paper?

Angler: Yes, only with greater powers of absorption than any blotting paper that was ever made.

Now then, here is a fish you must get. There is just enough stream to ruffle the surface a bit, but it is a steady stream so that you can cast a straight line and not have any reason to expect a drag.

Tourist: What is a 'drag'?

Angler: A 'drag' is that which results from the line moving faster or slower than the fly. If a line is cast in such a way as to make the fly draw or pull against the current and thus leave a wake behind it, the fly is said to 'drag.' I dare say, you have observed that real flies and other insects hardly ever do this. A wary trout might just be on the point of taking a fly, but if the fly suddenly began to move across the surface leaving a track behind it, the suspicions of the fish would be aroused and in all probability he would have none of your fly. However, this fish is easy of access and there is not much danger of drag. Make your fly fall on the water about two feet above the spot where he took down the last 'hopper! Above all, when he takes the fly strike him gently, as though you loved him. Now go to it.

Tourist: That seems a good cast but the fish is taking no notice of the fly.

Angler: Wait a few moments before you cast again; if you are not in a great hurry wait until he has taken another real 'hopper.

Tourist: There, he took that one. I'll try him with the fly again.

Angler: Good cast. Keep your eye on the fly. Oh, he has it! Well done—you have hooked him.

Take your time. Don't get flurried, I will land him when you bring him in.

Tourist: He seems tired out, so make ready. Now, I'm going to pull him in toward you.

Angler: Well, well, that is certainly a nice fish—two and a quarter pounds—and the first you ever caught on a dry-fly.

Tourist: I shall have something to tell the rest of the party when I meet them tonight.

* * * * * * * *

Angler: It is only two o'clock, and the machine won't show up for another half hour. We have caught as many fish as the law permits, not large in numbers, but a full ten pounds; so while we are waiting for the machine I will give you a few more pointers.

As I have explained, the grasshopper fly, which we were using, floats on its side very much as the real insect does.

Water bred flies, on which trout feed, float on the surface with their wings up in the air. I will now put on an olive dun; we need not expect any fish to look at it, because they are far too much taken up with the grasshoppers at present.

Now, will you go up stream about forty feet and kneel down and watch the water closely?

Tourist: How will this do?

Angler: That is just about right. Now watch the surface; I will drop the fly about three feet from the bank. When you see the fly on the water tell me if you notice anything at all about it.

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Tourist: Why, the fly is floating with its wings up in the air just like the real thing. How did you do that?

Angler: Now watch me make a cast. Instead of making the backward and forward strokes in a vertical plane, that is, the overhead cast which we used with the grasshopper fly, I make the strokes in a horizontal plane, which throws the line out sideways, and the fly curves around and for a moment the line, leader and fly are motionless over the water; then they fall gently, and the fly falling by its own weight naturally assumes an upright position and floats with its wings 'cocked up.'

Tourist: Why won't the overhead cast do that as well as the horizontal cast?

Angler: Because, no matter how carefully we cast, there is always the chance that the line will still have some slight momentum left in it from the cast; this motion, no matter how slight, may be enough to topple the fly over on its side. On the other hand, the horizontal cast throws the line out over the water, the line becomes extended and for a fraction of a moment all movement ceases, then gravity begins to act and the fly falls very lightly on the surface, as you have seen. Now come and try to do as I did.

Tourist: Let me see you do it again. All right, now let me have a try.

Angler: Try and see how close you can make your fly come to that little bit of rush that shows above the surface. You overshot the mark that time; the fly curled round too far.

Tourist: What made it do that?

Angler: You put just a trifle too much force into the cast. Try again.

Tourist: It was way this side of it. I guess I didn't cast quite hard enough that time. Ah! That is better. You try again.

Angler: This cast is much harder to do accurately than the overhead cast, but when you once learn it well, it is astonishing how simple it becomes.

Tourist: Why, the fly fell within three inches of the rush; I wish I could do that.

Angler: You will soon pick up the knack with practice, but watch this cast. This is the back-handed cast. It is the same as the horizontal cast only is made on the left hand side. The stroke somewhat resembles a back-handed stroke at lawn tennis, hence its name. It looks difficult, but comes just as easy as the other with practice.

Tourist: Well, here comes the machine, and I must thank you for a most enjoyable and instructive day.

Angler: I am glad you got some benefit from my teachings, and I hope you will become a highly proficient dry-fly man in the years to come.

Tourist: It certainly is a great sport. It has added to the charm of fly-fishing in a way that I thought hardly possible. I should like you to meet the rest of my party.

Angler: I will come over to the hotel after supper, about eight o'clock, but you had better take these fish, as there is just a chance that your crowd have not caught anything up at Pine Lake; even if they have, stream fish are always better eating than lake fish.

Tourist: Thanks very much. I have been hungry for trout for some time. Well, so-long till this evening.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

A publication devoted to the conservation of wild life and published quarterly by the California State Fish and Game Commission.

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All material for publication should be sent to H. C. Bryant, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.

JULY 26, 1920.

"The man who illegally takes game or fish decreases food resources and defrauds his country."

A NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Since our last publication Mr. Charles A. Vogelsang has succeeded Mr. Carl Westerfeld as Executive Officer of the Commission. This change is not regrettable in and of itself, for Mr. Vogelsang has had years of previous experience in the office he now holds, and has always enjoyed a deserved popularity for ability and zeal in the performance of his duties. No better appointment could have been made.

The only regret arises from the fact that Mr. Westerfeld's conduct left the Commission no alternative course except declaring his position vacant. A majority of the Board had long been convinced that a continuance of Mr. Westerfeld's services was not desirable. He became dissatisfied with his salary and devoted time due to the State to the maintenance and upbuilding of a private law practice and used the Commission's rooms and stenographer's services to that end. His lack of interest was soon reflected in the laxity of his subordinates; in view of which the majority of the Board came to feel that a change in the office of Executive Secretary was absolutely essential.

He was so advised and was accorded two months time in which to arrange for his retirement. At the end of that period, instead of resigning, he preferred public charges against Commissioners Newbert and Connell, the burden of which was that they were criminally responsible for the mishandling of State moneys. It was not, of course, charged that they had embezzled of misappropriated any of these moneys; that would have been too preposterous. The charge was that they did not remit to the State Treasury, month by month, all moneys arising from the sale of licenses, as the law requires.

The answer of the Commissioners was prompt and complete—that they had deposited these various license funds when, and as they actually became State funds—that canners' licenses, kelp and fisheries tonnage taxes, sold directly by the Commission, were remitted upon receipt; but that hunting and angling licenses, retailed for the greater convenience of sportsmen through a large number of so-called "Resale Agents," were only to be considered as State funds after final settlements with such agents, as they were entitled to refunds for all licenses returned unsold, and their commissions could only be computed upon their actual sales. In this interpretation of the law and of their duties, the Commissioners were wholly justified and fully exonerated by an opinion of the Attorney General of the State delivered in response to the Governor's request for a construction of the law.

Manifestly, but one course was open to the Board after such a baseless attack by a subordinate, and Mr. Westerfeld was ousted from office.

F. M. NEWBERT.
M. J. CONNELL.

OPTIMISM VERSUS PESSIMISM.

We all admire the optimist, the man who believes that all is going well in spite of adverse conditions, but sometimes an "all's well with the world" attitude develops apathy and a disregard of the need of readjustment or reform. There are many sportsmen who, in spite of circumstantial evidence, glibly point out that game conditions are of the very best, that game is continually on the increase, and that there is no need for worry as to the future. Too much of this sort of optimism prevents an awakened public sentiment which would be favorable to an improvement of conditions.

Although pessimism may sometimes mean a reduction of income from the sale of hunter's and angler's licenses, yet pessimism in regard to future game conditions often stirs the public to action. Certainly a study of the game situation in our state would convince anyone that action rather than apathy is the present day need, in so far as fish and game conservation is concerned. We are inclined to believe that there is greater danger toward fish and game in the optimistic point of view than in the pessimistic point of view.

THE VALIDITY OF THE MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY SUSTAINED.

On April nineteenth of this year the United States Supreme Court sustained the validity of the Migratory Bird Treaty, a treaty which was made between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds in the United States and Canada. It also declared the Migratory Bird Treaty Act

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constitutional which was approved July 3, 1918, to carry out the provisions of the treaty. Those who have appreciated the need for this law rejoice that it has finally been declared constitutional.

As early as 1904 Hon. George Shiras 3d introduced a bill which was defeated. But on March 4, 1918, the Weeks-McLean bill was brought before Congress through the efforts of the Interstate Sportsmen's Protective Association. This association necessarily took an important part in the fight.

The Weeks-McLean bill provided that the United States Department of Agriculture should have the right to make regulations for the taking of migratory birds of all kinds. The principal attack made on this new bill was by some of the Middle Western States, Illinois being one of the most prominent. The argument made against the bill, by Illinois and other states affected, was that it practically eliminated the sport of duck hunting except for those living on the big rivers and lakes, unless there was a great sufficiency of water during the fall season, an entirely uncertain factor. The Weeks-McLean bill was attacked in the Federal Courts and was held to be unconstitutional by several of the judges in the United States District Courts, with the result that the government having been appealed to, from the adverse decision in Arkansas, the case eventually reached the Supreme Court. While the act was under discussion the treaty was made between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds in the United States and Canada. This treaty was enacted by Congress and after the law went into effect the federal government dismissed the appeal in the Supreme Court, as the old act was supplanted by the new one.

Before further discussing the Migratory Bird Treaty, a brief summary of the provisions of the treaty is inserted as follows:

(1) The close season on all migratory birds in both countries is between March 10 and September 1.

(2) No open season can exceed three and a half months.

(3) The season is closed the year round on all migratory insectivorous birds.

(4) It is unlawful to sell wild ducks and other water-fowl in the markets in either country.

(5) It is unlawful to rob the nests of the ducks, etc., in Canada.

Returning to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the final settlement in the Supreme Court; on July 2, 1919, application was made before Judge Arba S. Van Valkenburgh of the United States District Court, at Kansas City, Missouri, for a restraining order to prohibit United States game wardens from enforcing the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in that state. Judge Van Valkenburgh refused. Acting under the authorization of a joint resolution adopted by both branches of the legislature, Attorney General McAllister brought this case of the *State of Missouri*, Appellant, vs. *Ray P. Holland*, United States game warden before the Supreme Court (No. 609, October Term, 1919). It was on this case that the Supreme Court, sustaining the decision of the lower tribunal, handed down the concluding sentiment which determined the constitutionality of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. McAllister, leading the fight against the act, maintained that it trod on the rights of the state. The opinion of the court as delivered by Justice Holmes reads as follows:

"The state, as we have intimated, founds its claim of exclusive authority upon an assertion of title to migratory birds, an assertion that is embodied in statute. No doubt it is true that as between a state and its inhabitants the state may regulate the killing and sale of such birds, but it does not follow that its authority is exclusive of paramount powers. To put the claim of the state upon title is to lean upon a slender reed. Wild birds are not in the possession of anyone; and possession is the beginning of ownership. The whole foundation of the state's rights is the presence within their jurisdiction of birds that yesterday had not arrived, tomorrow may be in another state and in a week a thousand miles away. If we are to be accurate we cannot put the case of the state upon higher ground than that the treaty deals with creatures that for the moment are within the state borders, that it must be carried out by officers of the United States within the same territory, and that but for the treaty the state would be free to regulate this subject itself."

In further answer to Attorney General McAllister's stand, and concluding the

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delivered opinion of the court, Justice Holmes said:

"The treaty in question does not contravene any prohibitory words to be found in the constitution. The only question is whether it is forbidden by some invisible radiation from the general terms of the Tenth Amendment.

Here national interest of very nearly the first magnitude is involved. It can be protected only by national action in concert with that of another power. The subject matter is only transitorily within the state and has no permanent habitat therein. But for the treaty or the statute, the reason might be no birds for any power to deal with. We see nothing in the constitution that compels the government to sit by while a food supply is cut off and the protectors of our forests and our crops are destroyed. It is not sufficient to rely upon the states. The reliance is vain, and were it otherwise, the question is whether the United States is forbidden to act. We are of the opinion that the treaty and statute must be upheld."

The decree was affirmed, Associate Justices Van Devanter and Pitney dissenting.

SURVEY OF THE FUR-BEARING MAMMALS OF CALIFORNIA.

Many readers of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME who do more or less trapping each year will be directly interested in the announcement that on December 1, 1919, the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California began an investigation of the fur-bearing mammals of the state. The purpose of the investigation thus undertaken is to secure reliable information as fully as feasible concerning the food, breeding habits and all other points worth knowing in the natural history of our fur-bearers. It is believed that this information is especially desirable at this time so as to determine the economic status of the various species, this being in many cases in doubt to ascertain the annual catch which may be safely taken without endangering the present breeding stock, and further to furnish an adequate basis for sound constructive legislation that will protect and develop the fur resources of our state. The income to the trappers of California from this source now amounts to nearly $400,000 annually.

All wild mammals of California whose pelts are commonly sold for fur are to be considered as fur-bearing mammals in this investigation.

Arrangements have been fully made, and the work is already well under way. Mr. Joseph Dixon, Economic Mammalogist of the above named institution, has spent a large part of the past trapping season visiting the trappers of the state and in securing first hand information relative to fur-bearing mammals. Diagrams to scale, measurements and photographs of breeding dens, notes on life history, together with photographs of the living animals in the wild have already been secured of several of our most important fur-bearers.

Blank records have been sent to the most progressive trappers of the state and these men have responded heartily. Many of them have examined the stomach contents of all the animals that they have trapped, so that we now have, in addition to field notes and collections gathered during the past eleven years by the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, as a foundation to go on, over 350 definite records, from these reports of food found in the stomachs of practically all the common fur-bearers in this state. The trappers have also sent in all available records of females that they have trapped which have contained embryos (unborn young). This affords an accurate index to the time and rate of breeding of these animals and has a direct value in determining the date when the trapping season should close in order to "protect the crop" for the succeeding trapping season.

An important feature of recent field work has been the taking of paraffin casts of tracks made by live wild animals under natural conditions in the field. Such a cast faithfully reproduces every dimension and contour of the original track and thus affords an excellent idea of one sort of "sign" which may be looked for by trappers

It is expected that at least three years' work will be required before the results of the investigation will be ready for publication. It is planned that this shall be in book form. Arrangements have been made to have this volume illustrated with color plates by America's foremost animal artists. Chapters in the book will be devoted to decrease of fur-bearing mammals, causes and control of this decrease, the fur trapper in California, methods of trapping and curing furs,

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legislation relative to fur-bearing mammals, agricultural and game interests versus fur interests, and federal and state forest reserves as permanent producers of fur-bearing mammals.

A general account of each species is being planned for, under which will appear topics such as common and scientific names, marks for field identification, description of pelage, moult, coloration, pads, claws, measurements, weights, skulls, teeth, variation, general distribution, type locality and specimens examined. Other topics, such as mannerisms, gait, posture of body, instances of behavior, timidity, voice, tracks and other sign, sanitation, breeding dens, breeding seasons and habits, number of young in litter, time of birth, precocity of young, paternal care, enemies, nature of food (exact data), feeding and forage habits, relative abundance, estimates of population, changes within history, relation to agriculture, grazing and forestry, and economic status, will be treated in detail.

Suggestions, information and observations of special interest will be welcomed from the readers of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME. In order to be of most value, the locality, date, and name of the observer must be given. Address communications to

Museum of Vertebrate Zoology,
University of California,
Berkeley, California.

ADEQUATE GAME PROTECTION.

What will make for better game protective measures throughout the United States is a question which concerns all of the people of the United States who are interested in the conservation of wild life. The *Pine Cone*, the official bulletin of the New Mexico Game Protective Association, in the issue of March, 1920, states that either the inadequate, conventional methods of game protection, in vogue in practically every state in the Union, must go, or the game must go. This is rather too radical a statement, but it is generally conceded that there is a vast need for improvement in the individual state game protective departments of the United States. There are three fundamental precepts which are applicable to the state game departments in general, and which, if striven for, and earnestly adhered to, would assuredly do much to not only solve the problem of more adequate wild life conservation in each state, but would perfect the appended system to the national department on conservation. They are as follows:

First—The slogan in every state should be, "Conservation through education."

Second—Plenary powers should be granted the commissions or departments concerned with game regulation and wild life resources, not with the idea of giving more power, but of avoiding the necessary delay entailed by state legislation. This point is aptly exemplified by again quoting from the *Pine Cone*: The state department of health is a commission to which the state legislature has delegated extensive authority in regulating public health—such as making rules for the sanitary handling of milk, closing public meetings in time of epidemic, etc. Suppose during the influenza epidemic, we had had to wait for a meeting of the legislature before closing public meetings. Yet that is no more illogical than waiting for a legislative enactment to close the season on a species immediately threatened with extermination." And

Third—Departmental duties and discretionary powers should be conscientiously executed. Particularly with regard to—

(1) The granting of permits.

(2) The practice of quantitative distribution of licenses.

(3) The setting aside of game sanctuaries proportionate to the requirements of the state.

In California it is worthy of note and emphasis that 3,107,520 acres—27 game refuges by legislative enactment, 3 game preserves by the Fish and Game Commission, 5 bird reservations, and the national park areas by the federal government—have been set aside where no hunting is allowed, and where game is allowed to breed unmolested. This is, as has been stated before, roughly speaking, about 3 per cent of the total area of the state.

It is by constructive methods, therefore, that the goal of adequate wild life conservation will be reached.

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A NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE.

In the *Review* of April 17, 1920, there is an editorial suggesting the value of a national commission on the conservation of wild life. The *Review* makes the following statements:

"Good legislation in some narrow corner of the field results, now and then; but permanent advances along the entire line is impossible, so long as the matter is handled in a piecemeal way."

It is very true that greater cooperation in the work of conservation is needed, particularly in the consideration of effective methods of dealing with the problem of migratory species. The starting point for this work is conservation by education in the different states, and from this will develop united public sentiment and greater national benefits.

The United States Bureau of Biological Survey under the United States Department of Agriculture may be considered as the present national organization for the conservation of wild life. It is the beginning of what must necessarily be an actively growing institution. However, notwithstanding the unquestionable value of the United States Biological Survey, a commission would doubtless have much more freedom than the present United States Bureau has, and with a competent, fit body of men, might be able to accomplish more.

The vital point which still remains is that any central commission or national body, no matter how efficient in itself, would be more or less ineffectual unless it has the support of the individual states. Therefore, the effort of each state should be toward education which would lead directly to a cooperative spirit and the unification of endeavor. Without educational methods there will be more chance for misguided legislation, lobbying, aggressive criticism and the accompanying lack of coordinated national strength.

The conclusion is that the idea of a national commission is of paramount interest, but any national organization will be greatly hampered until it has creditable state support.

GUNS USED BY DUCK PIRATES.

Although few of the big guns used by the duck pirates, or night gunners, on Chesapeake Bay and the rivers of Maryland, are in use at the present time, yet occasionally a new capture is made. The collection photographed is a collection

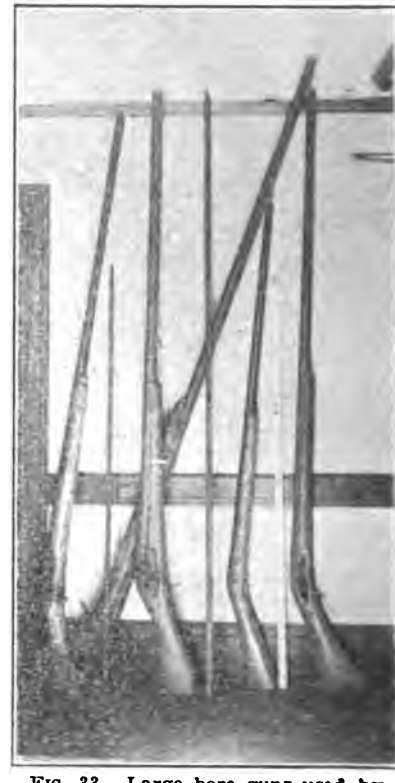

FIG. 33. Large bore guns used by duck pirates on Chesapeake Bay, Maryland. These are similar to those used by duck pirates in California previous to protective laws which put them out of business.

which has been assembled from time to time by the game wardens of Maryland. The guns measure 10 feet and weigh about 115 pounds; they are very crude affairs, some of them having been made by the "village blacksmith." Like guns were used by market hunters in California until legislation prohibited their use.

WM. H. FISHER,
Baltimore, Md.

SALMON FISHING AT MENDOTA WEIR.

Prior to the last two decades, salmon fishing in the upper waters of the San Joaquin River was confined to the use of seines and spears. Following closely

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on these methods came the grabhook. This latter method could not be employed until some barrier was constructed which would interfere with the passage of the salmon toward their spawning ground. When such a barrier was devised the fish congregated in large numbers and thus became endangered by two methods of capture. Either, due to their attempts to leap the obstruction, they became a mark for the spearsman, or while massed below a weir under water they became the unseen target for the unscrupulous—so-called—sportsmen, or avaricious fish vendor, neither class caring what method they employed of catching the fish so long as they got them.

In about the year 1910 or 1911, the legislature of California attempted to check the use of grabhooks, but in framing the law, the wording of the protective section has proved to be inadequate. The section which has been the source of many bitter controversies between the officers of the law and the fellow who wanted the fish reads as follows:

"Section 634. Every person who, except with spear or hook and line, said hook and line to be used in the manner commonly known as angling, takes, catches or kills any salmon * * * is guilty of a misdemeanor."

In so far as I know, we have no court interpretation on this section, so the matter is still in dispute.

Passing from the illegal methods of taking salmon resorted to by the unscrupulous fisherman, we have the spoon hook and line method practiced by the many clean, true sportsmen, some of whom come from distant places in the state to take salmon. And not infrequently, the sportsman of this type is rewarded by a big fellow taking the spoon in his mouth, which results in a fight that will often last for a half an hour or an hour. Thus the angler is rewarded by a sportsmanly encounter which keeps him on keen edge until the salmon is landed.

Why salmon strike at a spoon is not really known, for they apparently take no food after entering a freshwater stream, the stomach becoming useless so that food would probably not digest even if introduced artificially into the stomach. Then, we are prone to ask, "Why does he strike?" His known fighting qualities and unbounded determination to reach his recognized spawning bed may be an explanation for his actions. One seldom ever hears of a salmon taking a spoon until after he passes the town of Firebaugh, which leads to the inference that he apparently does not strike a spoon, after leaving the sea, until he meets with interference on his journey to his spawning bed. The town of Firebaugh is some six miles below Mendota weir, and very few salmon are taken on hook and line outside of a mile or two down the river, from the latter town. But at the weir, I have noted more than a hundred fish taken in twenty-four hours, fairly caught in the mouth with spoon hooks.

Those salmon which pass the weir travel up the river and pay little heed to lures of any kind, until they reach their final homes or spawning beds, in and near the hills. After reaching the cobble bottoms where they deposit their spawn, they again strike the spoon hook; at this time they furnish the greatest sport for the rod-casting enthusiast. Not only is the angler kept constantly on the alert, but he can find plenty of salmon pools wherein he can "let fly" one hundred and fifty feet of line and then some. The good fishing usually extends from the period prior to the time that they deposit their eggs until sometime in September; but individual salmon continue striking even on through the winter months.

Unless further protection is extended to the salmon very soon, the thrill of a salmon strike in the San Joaquin will be history. We have been very properly forced to give up the fall run of salmon to the agriculturist, and now our spring run is being depleted very rapidly. We lose vast numbers of fry in the irrigating ditches, as they travel down toward the sea. Therefore, unless we extend our best efforts to protect these fish quickly, the salmon of the upper San Joaquin River will pass into history as our elk and antelope have done.

S. L. N. ELLIS.

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CHEAP SPORT FOR INFLUENTIAL VIOLATORS.

There is many a man who would gladly pay $5 for the privilege of killing a Canada goose, provided he was sure that this was the only penalty he must pay and that he would not be prosecuted and branded as a man unwilling to play fair with his brother sportsmen. Yet there are men in this country today who are enjoying this privilege, or rather stealing it, at the low rate of $2.50 per violation. It was only as recently as September 23, 1919, that William F. Taubel, a wealthy citizen of Riverside, New Jersey, was fined $5 by a United States District Court in Trenton, New Jersey, for violating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, in that he decoyed to a blind and killed two Canada geese. Since that time the same judge who imposed the fine in the Taubel case has fined other violators of the same law as low as $2.50.

These fines contrast rather glaringly with a fine of $1,000 imposed on October 22 of the same year, also in Trenton, New Jersey, on Emilo Trowti, an alien resident of West Amwell, New Jersey. Trowti was found guilty of violating the New Jersey game laws, and was surely deserving of his punishment, as he was caught with a bag containing forty-eight song and insectivorous birds. However, fines similar to the first ones will surely cheapen the federal law and make difficult the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

It is gratifying to know that other district judges in the United States do not share the views of the one who imposed these low fines. In Wisconsin three hunters were recently fined $100 each for attempting to kill ducks after sunset, while in Connecticut a violator was sentenced to three months in jail for a violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. It is only by stringent methods that the true intent and meaning of this act can be carried out.

WATCH FOR BANDED DUCKS.

All waterfowl should be carefully examined to ascertain whether or not they are banded. The Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and several individuals are making a practice of banding waterfowl, to ascertain their migratory lines of flight, and it is quite necessary that full reports regarding the taking of any banded bird be made to the proper authorities.

QUAIL IMMUNE TO STRYCHNINE POISONING.

Important evidence has been secured regarding the comparative immunity of quail to strychnine poisoning. Field observations and feeding experiments conducted in California showed that one valley quail can eat grain containing enough strychnine to kill 12 ground squirrels without showing the slightest ill effect from the poison. A number of similar experiments on a mountain quail and a bobwhite gave like results. The information thus gained will tend to allay fears in certain quarters that poisoning campaigns against ground squirrels result disastrously to these valuable game birds. Investigations in Saskatchewan, Canada, have proved that grouse are equally immune to strychnine poisoning. *Ann. Rpt. U. S. Dept. Agric.*

BIOLOGICAL SURVEY TAKES OVER WORK OF AMERICAN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION.

The Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., has taken over the work, good will, effects, and records of the American Bird Banding Association, formerly conducted from headquarters at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. In the future, therefore, the issue of bands and information relative to the work will be from this office, to which all records of birds banded and recovered, should be sent. There will, of course, be no further dues or initiation fees.

In taking over the work of this association, the Biological Survey is particularly desirous of retaining your hearty cooperation, upon which a large part of our success will depend.

The work is to be advanced along two principal lines: first, the trapping and banding of waterfowl, especially ducks and geese on both their breeding and wintering grounds; and second, the systematic trapping of land birds as initiated by Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin. By maintaining volunteer trapping stations at

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intervals over the country, and consistently operating them throughout the year, a mass of valuable data relative to the migration routes, speed of travel, and affinity for the nest site of the previous year, as well as a quantity of life history information about the individual will be acquired.

To do this with any degree of success, the observer should be advantageously located with regard to bird habitats, as it is obvious that traps can not be regularly visited if located at any considerable distance from the operator's usual station during the day, and it is imperative that they be visited at least two or three times daily to prevent the birds captured from injuring themselves against the wires. The fascination of the work, however, will amply repay anyone for the little time and trouble, and for the expense for traps and baits.

Experiments are now under way to determine the most suitable types of traps and the best methods of trapping; and arrangements are being made for a supply of bands.

In the meantime, however, the Biological Survey desires to invite continued cooperation and will welcome any inquiries or suggestions for the advancement of the work. The Bureau particularly desires to get in touch with those advantageously located for the establishment of trapping stations.

NEW ZEALAND ENCOURAGES FISHING INDUSTRY.

Recently the Industries Committee, of the House of Representatives of New Zealand, traveled throughout the Dominion to find out how new and budding industries might be assisted and encouraged. The fishing industry amongst others was investigated and the following interesting recommendations were made:

That the best way to bring about the development of the industry is by organization for catching, distributing and, where necessary, preserving the fish. The only way to provide adequate supplies and prices within the reach of all is by trawling.

It recommended that a separate fisheries department of the government be established with a director and staff.

That the government own and operate steam trawlers, and establish fish-chilling and ice-making plants near the fishing grounds and engage generally in the business.

That the government advances be made to fishermen on the security of their boats and fishing outfit.

That the fishermen's boats be insured by the state office at a low rate.

That a systematic, scientific and practical survey of fishing grounds be undertaken without delay, and that the government purchase a properly constructed and equipped vessel for this work.

That government assistance be given to encourage the canning, curing and commercial preparation of fish food, special attention being given to the canning of crayfish.

That encouragement be given for the manufacture of fish manure and the production of fish oil (other than whale oil).

Several recommendations were made for licensing and controlling the business of whaling, among which were (1) that the whaling company should give guaranty that every portion of a whale's carcass will be used, and (2) that each company be confined to sixty miles of coast and each must take at least a certain number each year.

KARAKUL SHEEP INDUSTRY.

A few years ago considerable publicity was given the fact that some karakul sheep, noted for their fur, had been imported from Siberia. Added interest now pertains to this importation because of the fact that some of the original imported stock has been moved to California from Texas. The Kerman Karakul Sheep Company secured 200 animals from Texas in 1918, and the herd is now considerably larger. The outstanding importance of this breed lies in the splendid fur which is produced. It now appears also that this breed will do well even on scanty alkali vegetation. The karakul sheep will stand on its hind legs and browse high up, and therefore needs less territory as range. The lambs grow rapidly, sometimes attaining a weight of sixty pounds in two months. The mutton has a peculiar gamey flavor, and the large amount of fat (about

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twenty pounds to each animal) is valuable. According to P. A. Ingvason, manager of the ranch at Kerman, a

FIG. 34. Karakul lamb showing fur in prime condition. The Karakul sheep industry has spread to California.

better and hardier sheep is obtained by crossing the karakul with a Mexican wool sheep.

A new fur industry is therefore being developed in California. Although the animals utilized are domesticated, yet the increase of furs of this sort should add much to reduce the toll taken of native fur-bearers, and consequently this new project should be looked upon with favor.

SUGGESTED BIRD RESERVATION ON MONO LAKE.

A colony of gulls is located on a large island in Mono Lake where it is customary for them to breed each year. Recently a desert homestead has been taken up with an entry on the lake, and a summer residence has been built there. I understand that the homesteader proposes to stock the island with goats, which may be a fad that will be short lived. However, it strikes me that some attention should be given to the preservation of this colony of gulls, which is somewhat unique on account of the fact that it is situated so far inland, and also because it adds greatly to the interest taken in the Mono Lake region. This territory is rapidly coming to the front among the tourists as a recreation ground, and I feel that all due precaution should be taken to retain the interesting features of the locality. I have had it in mind for some time to advocate the setting aside of a sufficiently large portion of this island as a bird reservation, to insure their continued residence, through the aid of due protection.

No doubt you will be interested in this case, and if you care to take it up further, I will be glad to do all in my power to assist you in the matter. It is quite evident that unrestricted goat raising on the island would have a disastrous effect on the birds.

W. W. MAULE.

FIG. 35. Black fox at Tahoe Fox Farm.

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FOX FARM A SUCCESS.

The foxes at the fox farms of Lewis and Kierman, situated near Pomins, Lake Tahoe, are doing splendidly. The snow and cold, moist atmosphere at Lake Tahoe puts the fur in prime condition. The accompanying photograph is a picture of "Tahoe Queen," a black silver fox at the fox farm of Lewis and Kierman, which is valued at $3,000. The results thus far have been so encouraging that Lewis and Kierman are contemplating enlarging their fox farm of silver black foxes. JOSEPH H. SANDERS.

DEER PROTECTION IN SISKIYOU COUNTY.

There is nothing so abhorrent to the true sportsman as the wanton slaughter of deer, and especially the ruthless killing of a doe. One morning in March, 1919, the writer came upon a spectacle of this kind which so aroused him that he is prompted to utter a protest against such butchery. He was riding on horseback through the winter range for mule deer in Siskiyou County, which extends from the Weed Big Springs road as far north as the foot of Goose Nest Mountain and as far east as Morrison Station on the Klamath Falls line. In this section there are several hundred deer that come from the higher mountains and even from the lava beds to winter. There was about one inch of snow on the ground. Suddenly there appeared in the snow a blood trail with a man's track following. The writer determined to investigate. He did not have far to go when he came upon a sight that made his blood boil. There under a little bunch of pines he found the head of a mule doe and nearby two unborn fawns that the violator had taken from her. It was late in the evening and the writer had no kodak. When he returned next morning to get a picture he found that the coyotes had been there in the night and nothing remained.

This, however, was not the first slaughtered doe that the writer has found. The previous year on this same range he had come upon a mother and two yearling fawns, both does, wantonly killed and left for the coyotes. Furthermore, almost every day of the week shots may be heard in this section and evidence found of deer killed out of season. Game hogs have even gone so far as to build roosts in the trees, that they may have a better vantage point to watch the runaways.

In view of the conditions existing on this range it would almost seem advisable that a special patrol be established here from the first of December until the first of May, by which time the deer will have gone back to their summer ranges and can protect themselves.—EDWIN H. BUSCOMB, Edgewood, California.

BIRD CENSUSES.

In order to better regulate national affairs it is necessary to know the population from year to year so that fluctuations may be noted. Hence the ten year census. Likewise if we would control bird and animal life to better meet our needs it is necessary to obtain figures as to the wild life population. A number of states have recently inaugurated game censuses and the United States Biological Survey is advocating bird counts to gain knowledge of the total bird population and its fluctuations from year to year. Reliable observers the country over are being sought to undertake bird counts during the nesting season and to forward reports. In the hope that some of our readers may be interested in the work, and to show the thorough manner in which the work is undertaken, we are adding the following directions issued in Washington:

The height of the breeding season should be chosen for this work. In the latitude of Washington, D. C. (latitude 39 degrees), May 30 is about the right date for the first count; in the latitude of Boston the work should not begin until a week later, while south of Washington an earlier date should be selected. In any locality the count should be made soon after the end of the migration and during the early part of the nesting season.

What is wanted is a count of the pairs of birds actually nesting within the selected area. Birds that visit the area for feeding purposes only must not be counted, no matter how close their nests may be to the boundary lines.

In making this count, it is a good plan to begin at daylight some morning at the height of the nesting season and zigzag back and forth across the area, counting the male birds. Early in the morning every male bird is usually in full song, and at that season may safely be considered to represent a breeding pair. The results of one day's count should be checked and revised by several days of further work to make sure that every bird

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counted is actually nesting within the area and that no species has been overlooked.

The tract selected should represent the average farm conditions, and should not have an undue amount of woodland. It should contain not less than 40 acres—a quarter of a mile square—nor more than 80 acres, and should include the farm buildings, with the usual shade trees, orchards, etc., as well as fields of plowed land and of pasture or meadow.

The final results of the count should be sent to this Bureau as soon afterward as convenient, and should be accompanied by a statement of the exact boundaries of the selected area, so explicitly defined that it will be possible 25 years hence to have the count repeated. The name of the present owner should be given, together with a careful description of the character of the land, including a statement of whether it is dry upland or moist bottom land; the number of acres in each of the principal crops, or in permanent meadow, pasture, orchard, swamps, roads, etc.; the kinds of fencing used; and the amount of brush along fences, streams, roads, or in permanent pasture.

If there is an isolated piece of woodland comprising 10 to 20 acres conveniently near, a separate count of the birds nesting therein also will be useful. In this case the report, in addition to specifying the size and exact boundaries of the area, should state the principal kinds of trees and whether there is much or little underbrush.

A third count desired is of some definite timbered area—40 acres, for instance—which is part of a much larger tract of timber, either deciduous or evergreen.

Still a fourth count, supplementary to these, is needed. The average farm in the Northeastern States contains about 100 acres, and the average count hitherto has been of the birds nesting on the 50 acres of the farm nearest to and including the farm buildings. It is now necessary to obtain counts of the remainder of the farm, the wilder part containing no buildings, especially on the same farms where counts about the buildings have already been made.

Furthermore, counts on any other kinds of land are much desired for comparison.

Persons who have made counts in previous years are requested to repeat the work on the same areas. New areas selected should be such as are not likely to have their physical conditions much changed for a number of years. If succeeding annual counts show changes in bird population, it will thus be known that they are not due to changed environment.

The several kinds of counts are needed for a study of the relative abundance of birds under changing or stationary conditions. It is hoped that many persons interested in bird life will make one or more counts this season. As the department has no funds to pay for this work, it must depend wholly on voluntary observers. A supply of report blanks will be furnished on request. Requests for these should be addressed to Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

BEAR PROTECTION FAVORED.

It is reported that interest in black bear protection is always increased at the time of a blackleg epidemic in that the bears can be depended upon to eat up cattle which have died from blackleg, thus helping to prevent the spread of disease. Residents of Tuolumne County in past years have been wide awake to this benefit conferred by the black bear.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Work on the new $30,000 Tahoe Hatchery was resumed May 1 and it will be ready for occupancy August 15.

Ray Morris of Taft, California, was tried on March 10, 1920, on the charge of having deer in his possession during the closed season. He was sentenced to thirty days in jail and fined $250.

Floyd E. Baker of Los Angeles was caught by Deputy Ober in Nine Mile Canyon, Inyo County, while attempting to leave the mountains with twenty-four deer hides and nine sets of antlers which he had secured in Tulare County. He was tried April 27, and sentenced to 150 days in jail and a fine of $350.

Low water conditions have precluded a large take of rainbow trout eggs this season. At some of the best egg collecting stations but small takes of eggs have been secured.

The Fish and Game Commission has carried its educational campaign into the summer resorts of the state. In cooperation with the National Park Service, lectures and field trips are being furnished visitors to Yosemite National Park.

According to records kept by deputy game commissioners and forest employees, 1243 deer were killed in Trinity County during last year. It is estimated the total number was at least 2000, as many hunters come into the county during the hunting season and kill deer, records of which are never kept.

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HATCHERY NOTES.

W. H. SHEBLEY, Editor.

On April 30, the application lists for fish for the season of 1920 were closed. Prior to this date application blanks had been forwarded to all sections of the state, in order that interested parties might have ample opportunity of filing applications for fish for the purpose of stocking all streams open to the general public for fishing purposes. The applicants were cautioned that it was very necessary to have their formal applications on file in the office of the Department of Fish Culture prior to the date of closing, in order that they might be assured of receiving a supply of trout fry this season.

Nearly five hundred applications were received, and they came from every section of the state where cond'tions are favorable for the planting of trout fry. The majority of the applications were received from private individuals, although there were also a considerable number received from boards of supervisors, chambers of commerce, public associations of anglers and fishing clubs.

The season just closing has been a very unfavorable one for collecting trout eggs. Every egg collecting station was in operation this season and every effort was made to obtain a larger number of trout eggs than ever before, as it was realized that the demand for fry would be greater than ever before in the history of the Commission. The completion of the hundreds of miles of new highways and the ever increasing number of anglers is in large measure responsible for the increasing demand.

The drought of the past winter and early spring made it very difficult to obtain even a fair take of eggs at some of the best stations. The streams were so low in some sections that the spawning trout could not possibly ascend the streams to the points at which the egg collecting stations are located. This condition was noticeable at the Snow Mountain Egg Collecting Station on the Eel River, where in normal seasons from four to seven million steelhead eggs are obtained. This season less than one million eggs were taken at this station.

The run of fish in Scott Creek where the Scott Creek Egg Collecting Station is located, was also far below normal and less than half the usual number of steelhead trout eggs were obtained.

In the Bear Lake section, in San Bernardino County, where new racks, traps, holding tanks, etc., have been installed on the streams tributary to the lake, the take of rainbow trout eggs was practically a failure. Where there was every reason to expect a take of from four to six million eggs, only one and one-half million were obtained. In this section the long drought was followed in the early spring months by heavy snows and stormy weather. As the season advanced water in the lake was comparatively warm, while the streams flowing into the lake ran bank full of cold, roily water from the melting snows in the surrounding mountains. Under these conditions the spawning fish, which had gathered close to the mouths of the creeks, would not enter the streams to spawn except in limited numbers. Over retention of the eggs resulted and consequently when the fish were taken in our traps, the majority of the eggs were impossible of fertilization.

At the Klamath River stations in Siskiyou County there was a fair run of rainbow trout and a fair take of eggs was obtained.

Conditions at the Almanor Hatchery in Plumas County were unfavorable for egg collecting operations and we were unable to take any eggs at the station. A fair take, however, was obtained at Clear Creek Hatchery and the Domingo Springs Hatchery promises to turn out a million or so of rainbow trout eggs.

The water levels in Lake Tahoe were far below normal this spring, and while the season has not closed at this writing, it is extremely doubtful if more than a third of the normal take of black-spotted trout eggs will be obtained.

Our extensive system of breeding ponds at the Mount Shasta Hatchery has, however, produced a fine large take of Loch Leven and brown trout eggs and also a nice lot of eastern brook eggs. These eggs have all been hatched, and the resulting fry are thriving well and will soon be ready for distribution.

Under these conditions it will be readily seen that the number of trout fry available during this coming season

will be less than during several previous years, and consequently the allotments to the various applicants will be materially less than usual.

Two distribution cars will start out with fish about the middle of June, and applicants are urged to take every precaution to insure the safe delivery of all the fish allotted to them.

Applicants are instructed to make proper arrangements for meeting the fish cars promptly on arrival of the train as scheduled, provided with adequate transportation to handle the fish from the station to the streams to be stocked. Also that they have on hand the amount of ice required as per instructions mailed to them in advance of the date of shipment. The applicants are further urged to follow instructions carefully in the matter of avoiding delays in order that the work of aeration of the water may be lessened and to insure the fish arriving at the streams at the earliest possible moment and in the best condition. Attention is called to the fact that it is necessary to keep the fish protected from bright sunlight, when removing the covers of the cans for the purpose of aerating the water or inspecting the fish.

On reaching the waters to be stocked the temperature of the water should be equalized by placing a can of fish in the stream and then inclining the top of the can up stream thus allowing the water to flow gently into the can, or by pouring out a portion of the water from the can and filling it with water from the stream to equalize the temperature. Fish should always be planted in shallow, running water, avoiding pools, and should be well scattered.

In the past, in many instances, considerable numbers of fish have been planted by some of the applicants at one or two points on a stream. Far better results can be obtained by distributing the fish a can at each point along a considerable distance of the stream.

FIG. 36. The old Tahoe Hatchery, which will be abandoned when the new hatchery is completed.

In planting fish where it is necessary to carry the cans any distance from the wagon or auto truck, it is imperative that someone remain with the wagon and aerate the water in the remaining cans of fish during each planting. Also when stops are made for meals or other delays someone must be left with the fish to give the water the necessary aeration.

It is hoped that approximately 15,000,000 trout fry will be available for distribution, despite the unfavorable conditions for egg collecting operations this year, and if this number are properly planted, the streams will be provided with an adequate number of fry to insure fairly good fishing next season.

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NOTES FROM THE STATE FISHERIES LABORATORY.*

WILL F. THOMPSON, Editor.

THE "DAY" AND "NIGHT" SURF-FISHES OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.

It is very obvious that we know comparatively little about the fishes which inhabit the surf, or come there to spawn at the proper seasons. Notes regarding them are all of some value and usually will form valuable additions to our knowledge. The following are made from specimens received from Captain Tibbetts, of Eureka, to whom we are therefore considerably indebted.

In CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME for October, 1919 (Volume 5, No. 4), on page 203, Captain Tibbetts is quoted regarding two species of fish which are caught in the surf. One of these, known as the "night surf-fish," he believed to be the grunion, but upon our expressing some doubt regarding this, he sent us three specimens, taken a little south of Trinidad Harbor, on the ocean beach. They prove to be a species of the genus *Osmerus*, and its occurrence under the conditions noted is a fact well worthy of attention. What its habits are, and whether it spawns in the surf, is not known.

Captain Tibbetts was also kind enough to send us four specimens of the "day surf-fish." These, as we surmised in the article quoted above, belonged to the genus *Hypomesus*, which is caught in the surf along the California Coast north of Monterey.

THE GRUNION AT MONTEREY.

The spawning of the grunion is not known north of Long Beach, either to scientific men or to others. But, as Mr. Carl L. Hubbs has pointed out to us in a recent letter, the type specimen of the species was recorded as from San Francisco. Jordan and Hubbs in their review of the family *Atherinidæ* state that the original specimen came from San Francisco Bay, in which they supposed the species to live. However, this is improbable, when the life history of the species and its habits of spawning in the sand are considered. It is more likely that the fish was found in the markets, and came from some other locality on the open ocean close to San Francisco. A specimen of the grunion was found, on February 28 of this year, in the Monterey markets among fish taken locally in a seine.

In view of this proof of the presence of the species in these waters, high hopes were entertained that this remarkable species would be found spawning on the beach in northern waters, and attempts were made, in so far as circumstances permitted, to find them or their eggs.

On the night of March 6 Mr. Weymouth and Mr. Sette kept watch on the beach at Oceano, and found no sign of spawning fish, although the tide was the same approximately as that of the first run of the preceding year at Long Beach. Since the beach at Oceano is a splendid one, it was hoped that proof of their presence would be obtained there if any run occurred.

On April 6 a thorough search for eggs was made by Mr. Thompson, Mr. Sette and Miss Edwards along the beach between Del Monte and Seaside in Monterey Bay, but no signs of them were found, although if spawning had occurred to any extent during the preceding full moon tides, which were at their crest on the third of April, they would have been found. Again, on May 5, two nights after the full of the moon of May 3, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Weymouth patrolled the beach during the proper stages of the tide, but saw no signs of the fish themselves. In conjunction with the total lack of popular knowledge of a run, these attempts throw a certain amount of doubt on the occurrence of any extensive spawning run in these waters. It is of course still possible that a small run occurs somewhere near by, perhaps even on Del Monte Beach, or it may be that the specimens to be found here are simply strays. Further search will be made whenever opportunity offers.

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 19.

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ENEMIES OF THE GRUNION AT LONG BEACH.

The normal run of grunion occurred at Long Beach on May 4, 5 and 6, and on the fourteenth Mr. Thompson and Mr. Higgins obtained large numbers of pods of eggs for the purpose of photographing the hatching when the eggs were in the proper stage. Greatly to their surprise, every third pod at least was badly infected with maggots, presumably those of the same fly whose maggots were found the preceding year but of which the species name was not determined. Even the pods set aside as clean were subsequently found to be infected, and it proved impossible to raise the eggs to the hatching stage without great injury. Not one in twenty-five of the eggs would hatch when the proper time came, although they were for the most part alive. As the normal percentage is near 100, this was a considerable disappointment to the photographer. The failure to hatch was undoubtedly due to the maggots, in conjunction with a very extensive infection by a small nematode worm which accompanied the maggots. The sand in which the eggs were was foul and ill smelling.

ALBACORE OFF SAN FRANCISCO IN DECEMBER.

Mr. H. B. Nidever, assistant in the San Pedro office, furnishes the following note regarding the albacore:

F. G. Grotto, of San Pedro, who has fished for albacore here for several seasons, tells me that while he was making a trip on the "Daisy Mathiews," a lumber schooner from San Francisco to Honolulu, he caught two albacore trolling from the steamer about 280 miles out from San Francisco. He said that he saw two schools of fish and that those he caught weighed 18 to 20 pounds and that they had squid in their stomachs. The gonads of the fish were about one foot long and he could see developing eggs about the size of a pin head. They were caught on the eighteenth of December, 1919.

The reader who is interested might refer to a record of the taking of albacore off Northern California, on page 203 of the October number of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME for 1919. Such records are interesting as showing extremes of distribution.

OIL ON PISMO BEACH.

Professor Weymouth, engaged in studying Pismo clams for the Commission, reports that on the twenty-first and twenty-second of May, on the beach at Oceano and Pismo, a great many dead sea birds were observed covered with oil, and that many more still alive were lying on the beach with their feathers gummed with heavy oil. Dogs running on the beach chased and killed many of these. Ducks of various species and loons were observed among them. Professor Weymouth stated that he did not observe any clams dead from oil, probably because he was not on the beach at the right time.

The destruction caused among birds and mollusks by floating crude oil has been pointed out several times in these columns, and it is evident that the damage is still proceeding. An article by Professor Weymouth in regard to the destruction of mollusks appeared in CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME, volume 5, No. 4, page 174.

CONSERVATION IN OTHER STATES.

NEW YORK DISPLAYS COLORED MOTION PICTURES.

Motion pictures in natural colors, showing the Adirondacks in summer and also at the height of their autumnal brilliancy, will form one of the special features of the New York Conservation Commission in carrying on its educational campaign. These natural colored motion pictures, taken during the past season, are the first of their kind ever taken in the Adirondacks, and were produced by an entirely new process.

HEAVY PENALTIES FOR HUNTERS IN MICHIGAN.

Five hundred dollars, the maximum fine, recently was levied by a judge in Michigan against a hunter for selling 32 ducks in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Another violator of the same law, in Connecticut, who has been

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guilty of repeated offenses, was sentenced recently to three months in jail. This offender was not given the alternative of paying a fine. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act has been in force since July, 1918, and several hundred convictions have been secured. These cases are cited by the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, which administers the law, to show the increasing concern with which the courts regard violations of this important statute, designed to protect migratory birds, insectivorous birds and nongame birds.

COOPERATIVE INTEREST BETWEEN STATES.

The NewYork Zoological Society offered a reward of $200 for the arrest and conviction of any one killing antelope. On December 11, 1919, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, that the chairman be directed to notify Mr. Willian L. Finley, State Biologist of Oregon, that the New York Zoological Society hereby authorizes and will pay a reward of $200 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any one killing wild antelope in the State of Oregon, upon the condition that the Oregon Fish and Game Commission give publicity and post notices to the above effect, and the treasurer of the society is hereby authorized to pay from the funds of the society the stated reward upon satisfactory evidence of such conviction.

The payment of this reward has been authorized and a check for $100 has been sent to Mr. George Tonkin, U. S. Game Warden, box 1531, Boise, Idaho, and a check for $100 has also been sent to Sheriff E. E. Woodcock, Lakeview, Oregon.

The Boone and Crockett Club are about to pass a similar resolution, which will apply to future convictions only.

WATER POLLUTION IN OHIO.

For ten years the water pollution problem was ineffectually dealt with in Ohio. Between 1909-1919 the responsibility of the yearly increasing urgency for action was passed from one department to the other—Health, Fish and Game and the State Chemists. The chemists accumulated much analytical information but they seemed to have found no remedy. In 1919 Mr. A. C. Baxter, Chief of the Ohio department, Mr. J. W. Stuber and Mr. J. T. Travers, Supervisor Stream Pollution, Ohio Department of Agriculture, took hold of the question and now, after having conducted experiments for over a year, Mr. Travers and Mr. E. J. Lewis, a water expert and chemist of Bellaire, Ohio, are ready to demonstrate the satisfactory results of their experimentation.

The process is the treatment of the pollution in vats as it leaves the factory or mine with a chemical having a lime base. This chemical precipitates or controls any organic pollution held in suspension in the vats, and also releases any poisonous gases.

The cost of the treatment is from 2 to 3 cents per thousand gallons, depending on the nature of the pollution, and the cost of installation is about $1,000. It is claimed that the by-products will often more than pay for the cost of installation and operation. The character and amount of polluted matter which is emptied into the Ohio streams daily is as follows:

Steel Mills—Sulphuric acid, three per cent solution. Six thousand gallons per day as an average from each factory polluting streams.

Straw Board Works—Organic matter which generates poison gases that displace the oxygen in the water and causes a sickening stench. Average of 800,000 gallons every 24 hours emptied into adjacent streams at each plant.

Sugar-beet Factories—Deadly organic matter which drives the oxygen from the water and kills every living thing in it. An average of 3,000,000 gallons every 24 hours from each sugar-beet factory in the state that uses a stream as a sewer.

Canning Factories, Cheese Factories and Cascin Factories—Deadly organic pollution. Two thousand gallons per day from each factory that empties pollution into a waterway or stream.

Coal Mines—Copperas water containing from 300 to 500 grains per gallon of ferrous sulphate, deadly to aquatic life of all kinds and strong enough to eat up a steel rail in ten days. From 10,000 to 50,000 gallons per day, each mine.

The problem of stream pollution to all State Fish and Game Commissions is one of vital importance because of the exterminating effect of pollution on all forms of aquatic life.

The manufacturers throughout the State of Ohio are planning to install the

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system as soon as possible and the opportunity will be open to the other states of the Union to profit by this most valuable discovery.

GAME LAWS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

The game law of Massachusetts makes an open season on deer in that state from sunrise on the first Monday of December to sunset the following Saturday, the bag limit being one deer in a season, and it to be killed with a shotgun. There is no open season in Massachusetts on ruffed grouse, but quail and pheasants may be hunted legally each year from October 20 to November 20. The bag limit on quail is four in one day, or twenty during the season, and on pheasants two in a day, or six in a season.

American Field.

GAME LAWS IN COLORADO.

In Colorado there is no open season on elk, mountain sheep, antelope or beaver, but one is permitted to kill one deer having two or more points on each horn, from October 1 to October 4, both dates inclusive. Aliens are not permitted to hunt in the state or to own or possess firearms. Shipment of game out of or into the state is permissible, providing the shipper has a transportation permit issued by the State Game Commissioner, but not otherwise.

American Field.

LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

A CALIFORNIA CONDOR SEEN NEAR HEAD OF DEER CREEK.

On May 11, 1920, while inspecting a timber sale area at the head of Deer Creek, east of Hot Springs, California, in the Sequoia National Forest, with Supervisors Cunningham and Benedict and Deputy Supervisor Derby, we noted an immense bird circling over the clump of redwoods (*Sequoia gigantea*) on Deer Creek. The bird settled in the top of one of these trees 400 to 500 yards away from us. In flight it was like a buzzard, except that it was entirely too large. It had a brownish beak, a ruff around its neck, a light brownish color on the under feathers of its wings, and it had a very large wing spread. It appeared to be an adult specimen, the white tipped wing coverts and lanceolate feathers about the neck being particularly noticeable. We judged at the time that it must be a specimen of the California condor (*Gymnogyps californicus*), and in looking up the subject on our return to Hot Springs the description for that bird fitted very well the bird we had seen.

PAUL G. REDINGTON.

DUCKS IN THE IMPERIAL VALLEY.

During December ducks were fairly numerous in the Salton Sea at the mouth of the Alamo River, in Imperial County, but they were very difficult to approach and very few sportsmen were able to secure more than five or six birds at a time. A preponderance of shovellers was in evidence. Even with an abundance of ducks good shooting is limited in the Imperial Valley, owing to a lack of suitable shooting ponds. Apparently the best bags are obtained at certain seasons of the year when a high wind is blowing. At such times canvasbacks and "bluebills" are secured along their lines of flight.

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UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE COOPERATION.

STEELHEAD TROUT IN THE CALIFORNIA NATIONAL FOREST.

There are a number of streams in the California National Forest well stocked with fish. Those on the east side, flowing into the Sacramento River, are stocked with rainbow trout; and on the west side, the streams tributary to Eel River, with steelhead trout. A few other varieties, such as Loch Leven, eastern brook and black-spotted trout, have been introduced into the east side streams. It is commonly believed that steelhead trout, after attaining a length of 7 or 8 inches, migrate to the ocean, returning after maturity, being usually from 24 to 40 inches in length and weighing from 5 to 15 pounds. These large steelheads have been coming up the various branches of Eel River only, probably for all time; but until recently they were practically exterminated every year by Indian fishermen. There is one stream on the forest, the north fork of the Middle Fork of Eel River, which has many large, deep holes in which these fish stay all summer if unmolested, and as they readily take a hook they furnish splendid sport. Until the past few years the Indians have systematically netted and blasted these holes until they got every fish. We have been making a determined effort to stop this practice, with some results. During the past season two Indians were caught in the act of using illegal nets, one of whom plead guilty to the charge and a fine of $100 was imposed on him.

DEER SEASON TOO EARLY ON THE EL DORADO FOREST.

The open season on deer in Fish and Game District 1–I is believed by local forest officers to be entirely too early. It had far better be reduced to one month, from September 15 to October 15, than as it is at present. August 15 to September 15 is a very hot period, and many of the deer killed, or large parts thereof, spoil and are unfit for use.

In quite a few of the streams on the north side the fish (trout being the only game species) are pretty well depleted since up to last year little or no replenishing was done. Many of the lakes never have had any in them. At the proper time considerable cooperation can be gotten from interested parties, and the Forest Service should plan to be in position, financially, to help out.

MULE DEER ON THE LASSEN FOREST.

Big game, as it goes in California, is to be found on the Lassen in abundance. The mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) is plentiful in the northeastern part and appear to be on the increase. They winter in the lava beds of Lassen and Modoc counties, and follow the snow to the higher areas in the spring. The bucks do not run with the does during the summer. Both, however, stay at comparatively low elevations until the middle of the summer when the bucks go to the high ridges. They will stay on the summer range until there is considerable snow before moving to the lower elevations. All move out together over well defined trails. The rutting season is November and December and the fawns are born in May and June. They usually are in pairs, one buck and one doe. The game refuge 1–F has been posted and we do not believe that there was any hunting within this area this season. It is well situated and should be a material factor for the increase of the species in its locality. There is considerable controversy as to whether or not the mule deer and Columbia blacktail deer cross. On certain ridges and mountains mule deer but no blacktail deer will be found, while on others blacktail only are found. However, several deer have been killed on the Lassen within the past two or three years that are apparently crosses, having the tail of the Columbia blacktail with no patch of white around the base of the tail, but having all other appearances of the mule deer. One of these is reported to have weighed one hundred and eighty pounds.

The only other species of deer known to be indigenous is the Columbia blacktail. This species is found in every part of the forest but less often in the country where the mule deer abounds. This deer winters in the foothills of the valley and moves to the higher areas as the snow goes off. During the spring and summer the bucks are to be found on the high rough ridges and the does and fawns on the

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meadows and flats. Bucks are often seen at the timber line on Brokeoff Mountain and Lassen Peak at an altitude of approximately 9500 feet. At the time of the first snows both bucks and does begin to move to the foothills. Ordinarily they all follow one or two routes. One of the best known of these is down the ridge between Deer and Mill creeks, just north of game refuge 1–G. The last few days of the season dozens of hunters congregate in that area and slaughter the deer as they move out. We are not prepared to make a definite recommendation at this time but it seems that it would be advisable to extend the refuge to include this area. Another well defined deer trail is the ridge between Mill Creek and Battle Creek at Mineral. There are a number of hunters here late in the season too but apparently not enough to warrant the creation of a game refuge. The winter range is the foothills below pine timber. The summer feed is largely browse with a little grass and with acorns. Rutting season is from November 1 to December 15 and the young are born from May 1 to July 1. As a rule, the fawns are in pairs, one doe and one buck. The bucks shed their horns from February 15 to April 1. Deer were fairly plentiful last year, but apparently have decreased 5 per cent in the past twenty years. The area in game refuge 1–G is well adapted for the purpose intended but we are advised that game violations are frequent. Owing to the remoteness of the area from the center of the forest and the press of other work forest officers are unable to give the refuge the protection that it should have. If wardens could be appointed for the area much better results would be secured. During the winter, when the state game wardens are known to be in the rice fields, game trespassers are said to be numerous in the foothills. Very probably an occasional trip by the state game wardens would lessen this form of game violation 50 per cent.

The Lassen offers some of the best trout fishing in California. The rainbow are indigenous to practically all of the streams. In past years rainbow, eastern brook, Lock Leven and black-spotted fry have been planted. Of these the eastern brook and rainbow have done the best. No record has been kept of the relative number of each species planted but it is found that in the streams planted the rainbow have done the best in the deeply shaded canyons while the eastern brook, black-spotted and Lock Leven have done better in the open stream as it flows through meadows. In Battle Creek at Mineral a catch will average 60 per cent eastern brook, 5 per cent Lock Leven, 10 per cent black-spotted and 25 per cent rainbow in the meadow and will run 90 per cent rainbow in the canyon less than a mile away. The part of the stream through the meadow has been more heavily planted than has the part of the stream in the canyon. Several of the small lakes within the forest have been planted. Steelhead were planted in Juniper and Grassy lakes in the summer of 1914. Two and three pound fish were taken from this lake in 1918 and some reported to weigh ten pounds in 1919. There has been considerable discussion as to whether these fish will spawn in the lake as it has no streams running into or from it. Some have contended that as the fish are unable to spawn in their usual habits they will die and that within a few years the lake shore will be covered with dead fish. This has not occurred as yet. The trout planted in most of the streams have remained quite small. The California Fish and Game Commission have established a hatchery and egg taking station within the forest at Domingo Springs on the Feather River and are planning another one on Warner Creek. Both of these streams have a big run of rainbow at spawning time and afford excellent fishing. Steelhead and salmon run up both Deer and Battle creeks from the Sacramento River at spawning time. In both streams there is a high falls that keeps them from reaching the headwaters. However, it might be advantageous to blast out these falls. During the early eruptions of Mount Lassen and the subsequent flood all of the trout in Hat Creek were either washed away or killed. For the past several years there have been practically no fish in the creek. The stream is now becoming clearer, however, and the fish are beginning to appear again. The waters of this stream are largely used for irrigation and the residents prefer not to have the stream stocked so that they will not be compelled to put in fish screens.

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REPORTS.

CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 1920.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt.	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake.	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Colusa, Glenn	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexican
Albacore												3,325				3,325	
Anchovies								225		19,391		4,572				24,188	
Barracuda								61	221		39,378	254,759		136,241		430,660	1,740,664
Bluefish									107	16,501						16,608	
Boccaccio	334							85,755	157,025	272,434						515,548	
Bonito											1,368	56,630	2,452	18,210		78,660	139,090
Carp				2,297	49,895		21,097	224					5,230			78,743	
Catfish	97	16,244		4,645	13,025											34,011	
Chilipepper								56,278	73,607	3,101						132,986	
Cultus cod	291		31				864	156,205	31,473	68,933	365					258,162	
Flounders	3,961		255	3,682			818	131,796	13,775	42	800	1,469				156,598	
Grayfish			160				15	95,080		220	300	108,823		17,077		221,675	12,628
Greenfish												412				412	
Hake								10,700								10,700	
Halibut	1,350							14,062	9,905	351	52,070	544,058	75,062	287,476		984,334	352,893
Hardhead					10,951		55									11,006	
Herring	6,836		65,470				38,120	115,060								225,516	
Kingfish			8					1,108	16,566	15,811	33	153,963	161	2,502		190,152	
Mackerel										24,172	1,226	306,582	593	23,907		356,780	32,251
Mullet														11,525	4,496	16,021	
Perch	17,806		11,727	40			266	11,773	875	8,625	180	8,815	517	135		60,059	290
Pike				55	991		2,843									3,889	
Pompano								24		870		10,613		58		11,565	231
Rock bass											60	8,155	805	2,892		11,912	630
Rockfish	5,664		84					245,664	80,826	165,292	45,575	525,795	4,479	385,721		1,459,100	88,929
Sablefish								346,418	1,625	2,522						350,566	
Salmon	818		759	78,223	21,170	2,401	71,125	16,097	119	146,039						337,711	
Sanddab								207,775	7,006	476	25	2,198				217,480	

Sardines								644,316	1,385,900	21,472,739		24,537,871	378	7,642,187		55,683,391	3,185
Sculpin												4,714	65	989		5,768	
Sea bass (black)												11,025	110	14,994		26,129	27,218
Sea bass (white)								387	15	29	1,097	395,172	467	6,089		403,206	47,159
Sea trout	54											1,044		5,689		6,787	5,562
Shad				6,062	267		12,021	1,360								19,710	
Shad (buck)				15,035	1,589		22,731									39 295	
Shad (roe)				13,116	1,440		21,986									36 542	
Sheepshead											91	1,410		7,099		8,600	
Skates								39,660	1,625			1,737	73	65		43,160	
Skipjack														445		445	
Smelt	15,625	245	20,434				3,226	51,544	152	18,550	27,191	35,412	4,672	11,111		188,162	39
Sole	302			29				982,340	51,276	1,751	2,778	35,906	269	1,741		1,076,392	
Splittail					6,869		5,206									12,075	
Striped bass			2,334	59,769	10,298		82,100	29,706		17						184,224	
Stingaree																	24,885
Suckers					1,568											1,568	
Swordfish														24		24	
Tomcod							48	20,457								20,505	
Tuna												1,395				1,395	
Turbot			440					34								474	
Whitebait			68					34								68	
Whitefish												1,574		3,207		4,781	4,417
Yellowtail												259,195	125	18,582		276,902	68 838
Miscellaneous				14			35	12,556	1,258	3,850	61,927	1,538	287	2,900		84,365	680
Total fish	52,638	16,489	101,770	182,967	118,003	2,461	282,556	3,276,695	1,833,356	22,242,616	234,464	27,277,462	65,545	8,600,816	4,496	64,322,834	2,544,089
Crustaceans—																	
Crabs (doz.)	1,385		286				1	23,490	202	7						25,380	
Shrimps								182,725				171				182,896	
Spiny lobsters											7,649	61,902	7,160	11,140		87,851	816,956
Mollusks—																	
Abalones	225	10	475							31,449	11,291					43,450	29,960
Clams (cockle)	4,115		1,708								700		2,788			9,311	
Clams (mixed)	5,623		11,239				104	1,304					20			18,290	18,500
Clams (Pismo)									155		72,802					72,937	
Clams (softshell)	396	3,469	1,540				22,695	2,301								30,401	
Cuttlefish			64					5,093	3,375	23,895		351				32,778	
Limpets													535			535	
Mussels							2,289	360	1.000		292	577	1,668			6,181	

CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS—Continued.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Colusa, Glenn	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexican
Oysters, Eastern (number)			306,702					1,143,750								1,450,452	
Oysters, native			14,630													14,630	
Snails												280				280	
Squid	90									247,544		135,122				382,756	
Miscellaneous—																	
Turtles																	2,189
Scallops													513			513	

All amounts shown in pounds unless otherwise specified.

CORRECTION.—In the April issue of CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME was shown a report of California fresh fishery products for the year 1919, and on page 94, amounts of sanddab and sardines shown for Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties were transposed. Amounts shown for Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties were correct. Below is shown the correct amounts of sanddab and sardine taken in California during 1919.

District	Sanddab	Sardine
Marin		141,700
San Francisco and San Mateo	628,206	1,362,518
Santa Cruz	67,885	5,141,869
Monterey	2,602	81,447,280
San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura	1,394	54
Los Angeles	7,830	54,600 1 4
Orange		25
San Diego	1,821	11,183,530
Totals	709,738	158,877,179

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS.

January 1 to March 31, 1920.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	24	$420 00
Trapping without license	5	45 00
Trapping on game refuge	1	100 00
Deer—close season—killing or possession	9	540 00
Female deer—spike bucks—fawns—killing or possession	2	100 00
Running deer with dogs—close season	2	50 00
Illegal deer hides—possession	2	90 00
Beaver—beaver hides—killing or possession	2	125 00
Quail—closed season—killing or possession	3	75 00
Quail in captivity without permit	1	10 00
Ducks—excess daily limit—close season—killing or possession	9	625 00
Shooting ducks from power boat in motion	8	120 00
Night shooting	17	625 00
Doves—close season—killing or possession	1	5 00
Swan—killing or possesion	4	175 00
Pheasant—killing or possession	1	20 00
Protected shore birds—killing or possession	4	85 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	5	55 00
Tree squirrels—closed season—killing or possession	4	75 00
Total game violations	104	$3,340 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	10	$235 00
Fishing for profit without license	6	125 00
Making false statement on application	1	25 00
Striped bass—underweight—close season	4	45 00
Halibut—underweight—offering for sale	7	155 00
Barracuda—underweight—offering for sale	1	
Trout—excess limit—offering for sale—closed season	8	250 00
Lobsters, dried—under or oversized—closed season	15	321 00
Crabs—undersized—closed season	4	40 00
Abalones—red, black and green—under or oversized	33	670 00
Clams—undersized—excess limit	11	280 00
Dynamiting fish	2	
Seining in restricted waters	3	600 00
Seining within 750 feet of Redondo Pier	6	650 00
*Seining within one mile of Los Angeles city sewer	3	300 00
Pollution of state waters	1	200 00
Total fish violations	115	$3,876 00
Grand total fish and game violations	219	$7,216 00

*Paid into Los Angeles County treasury.

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SEIZURES—FISH AND GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

January 1, 1920, to March 31, 1920.

Game.		Fish.	
Deer meat	298 pounds	Halibut	2,638 pounds
Ducks	780	Barracuda	200 pounds
Gray geese	17	Striped bass	574 pounds
Rabbits	70	Catfish	50 pounds
Live quail	6	Trout	65
Miscellaneous birds	4	Crabs	1,143
Deer hides	13	Lobsters	955
		Lobsters (dried)	131 pounds
		Abalones	600 pounds
		Pismo clams	566
		Cockle clams	1,275 pounds
		Little Neck clams	220 pounds
		Illegal nets	5
		Searches.	
		Illegal fish and game	3

Fish and Game Commission

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

For the Period July 1, 1919, to April 30, 1920.

Administration:		
Commissioners	$1,400 84	
Executive offices	22,031 42	
Research and publicity	4,188 23	
Accident and death claims	1,902 31	
		$32,979 82
Commercial fish culture and conservation:		
Superintendence	$11,105 57	
Inspection and patrol	25,051 65	
Research	15 056 74	
Statistics	8,153 41	
Market fishing license commissions	695 00	
Propagation and distribution of salmon	19,498 83	
		79,560 22
Sporting fish culture and conservation:		
Superintendence	$12,102 81	
Printing	1,861 69	
Prosecutions and allowances	404 55	
Angling license commissions	11,765 70	
Special field investigation	252 35	
Fish exhibits	7,208 91	
General patrol (pro rata share)—		
San Francisco District (40 per cent)	28,780 33	
Los Angeles District (40 per cent)	11,540 18	
Sacramento District (40 per cent)	22,836 26	
Propagation and distribution of trout	101,218 84	
		197,964 13
Game conservation:		
Printing	$2,746 76	
Prosecutions and allowances	1,180 60	
Hunting license commissions	17,952 90	
Mountain lion hunting (and bounties)	6,082 48	
General patrol (pro rata share)—		
San Francisco District (60 per cent)	43,161 57	
Los Angeles District (60 per cent)	17,310 30	
Sacramento District (60 per cent)	34,404 45	
		122,819 06
Tahoe camping ground		2,964 89
Total expenditures		$436,287 11

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 6 SACRAMENTO, OCTOBER, 1920 Number 4

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DISTRIBUTION OF THE GOLDEN TROUT IN CALIFORNIA.

By S. L. N. ELLIS and H. C. BRYANT.

Fishermen and nature lovers who frequent the wild, rugged climes of the southern Sierra are now, most of them, familiar with the golden trout, *Salmo roosevelti*. This fish is known to excel any other species of trout in beauty, not only because of its well-proportioned form, but more particularly because of its exceptionally brilliant and rich coloration.

There are three recognized species of golden trout: the Little Kern golden trout, *Salmo whitei*; South Fork of the Kern golden trout, *Salmo agua-bonita*, and Roosevelt trout, of Volcano Creek, *Salmo roosevelti*. The Kern trout, *Salmo gilberti*, is the parent species from which the three, afore named, were probably derived; and, so far as is

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known, all four species are native to the head waters of the Kern River.

The distinctive characteristics of these diversified types is more readily appreciated if the geographical isolation of their habitat is understood. It has been stated that the Kern trout, *Salmo gilberti,* is the parent species of the golden trout, and as may be inferred from the name, is native to the Kern River. This river is of considerable

FIG. 37. Agua-bonita Falls on Volcano Creek, the stream which is the original home of the golden trout. Photograph by W. Y. Kellogg.

width and flows through a most inspiring, deep, rugged, high Sierran canyon, and in ages past, when the glacial period wrought its stupendous changes, the Kern River trout, native then to not only the Kern River but to its tributory streams—Volcano Creek, South Fork of the Kern and the Little Kern and Soda Creek—became isolated in these different streams by the formation of unsurmountable barriers, and each group being acted upon by the influences of its own peculiar environment, with no opportunity for interbreeding of groups, resulted,

quite naturally, in each one developing in its own distinctive, characteristic way.* And the golden trout, *Salmo roosevelti*, of Volcano Creek, the most radiantly beautiful of them all, became the most individual.

But the changes which Volcano Creek underwent were far more enduring and much more complicated than the changes which occurred in the other streams, for aside from the impassable falls, formed by the wearing down of the stream beds, Volcano Creek, formerly called Whitney Creek, underwent volcanic changes of a more or less unique character, which accentuated the deepening characteristics of the stream, and in all probability temporarily cut it off entirely from the Kern River.

Volcano Creek rises south of Cirque Peak. Several small, clear, mountain streams, having their sources at an elevation of from 10,000 to 13,000 feet, thread their way through picturesque, grassy meadows to the point of confluence. For a distance of about eight miles the creek flows in somewhat of a southerly direction until it enters Toowa Valley, then it turns west in a widening course and joins the Kern River about opposite Soda Spring. The South Fork of the Kern River has its source near that of Volcano Creek and it enters Toowa Valley at about the same place, and in the days when this section of the southern high Sierra was first traversed by white men, the idea was conceived of joining Volcano Creek and the South Fork of the Kern by a tunnel. This was quite possible, for a small ridge less than a hundred yards wide, in parts, and scarcely fifty feet high divided the streams. No doubt at one time the South Fork of the Kern was a natural tributary of Volcano Creek. The tunnel which was made caved in, but in the course of experimentation some of the golden trout escaped into the South Fork. The cut filled up and the two streams again became entirely distinct. Above this tunnel, which is at an elevation of 8600 feet, Volcano Creek flows through meadowy country, the creek bottom being granite sand and gravel; but below the tunnel for a distance of eight miles or so, to the point where the creek enters the Kern River, and at a drop in elevation of 2300 feet, the stream bed is of volcanic character and the stream itself very turbulent. It is not, however, due to the rapids, but to the three falls—Agua-Bonita, with a small fall known as Surby Fall between it and Stewart Fall (second), and the third, Shields—that the trout are barred from traveling from one body of water to the other; and in fact, such natural barriers as these are the cause of fish isolation in the several streams, and of even entire lack of fish in some, where volcanic action and other forces were at play—the streams and lakes are barren, many of them despite a good supply of food.

The value of distributing the golden trout can hardly be overestimated. First, it has saved these beautiful fish from the complete extermination with which they were threatened. Secondly, the trout are being planted in heretofore barren streams and lakes, and therefore they will furnish added fishing grounds for the angler. Too, the fish, without the possibility for interbreeding, will remain the pure type. And third, they are a prolific fish, and, to the delight of all sportsmen, are extremely gamey.

*"The Golden Trout of the Southern High Sierras," by Barton Warren Evermann, 1906. U. S. Bureau of Fisheries Bull. 25, pp. 3-51, 16 pls., 1 map.

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The earliest record we have, of the transplanting of the golden trout to streams other than those of their natural hibitat, was in the year 1876. The two Stevens brothers, who had built a small sawmill on Cottonwood Creek, were anxious that the stream be well stocked with fish for their own use. They went over to Mulky Creek, in Mulky Meadows, and procured what in all probability were the *Salmo agua-bonita,* or South Fork golden trout, and planted them in Cottonwood Creek.

In the summer of 1876, Mr. S. L. N. Ellis says: "I was at Mineral King and Mr. Arthur Crowley, former assessor of Tulare County, showed me a single large trout in the creek at Mineral King. He told me that 'uncle' Wiley Watson had brought some trout from the Little Kern via Farewell Gap and had planted them in this stream." The first plant made by Watson reproduced rapidly and furnished the supply for the fishermen at Mineral King until 1894, when the later plants were made. Mr. Ellis caught fish at Mineral King in 1887, while he was out on a hunting and fishing trip in that region. This work was very important for it was the move which undoubtedly interested others in fish planting, and which caused others, later on, to try and accomplish similar plants.

After a lapse of some nine years, G. W. Cahoon contributed his share to the transplanting of the golden trout. Mr. Cahoon was a cattle rancher who during the summer carried butter by pack from the head of the South Fork of the Kaweah over the pass to Inyo County. On his way back he caught the golden trout, *Salmo whitei*, in Soda Creek at Quinn's Horse Camp and planted them in the South Fork of the Kaweah, at Evelyn Lake, where there were no fish.

In 1887, two years after Cahoon had made his plant of *Salmo whitei*, James McIntyre, a sheepman, procured some of the same species of trout at Rifle Creek and planted them in Coyote Creek, a tributary of the Kern.

Again there was a period of trout planting inactivity, but in 1892 Cottonwood Lakes were planted by E. H. Edwards and two friends. Edwards, who was a storekeeper at Lone Pine, desired to improve the fishing conditions in his vicinity, so with James Moffitt and B. H. Dutcher he obtained a catch of *Salmo agua-bonita,* the same variety which had been planted by the Stevens brothers in Cottonwood Creek in 1876, and planted them in Cottonwood Lakes. This plant was apparently very successful, for in 1906 Cottonwood Lakes were reported by the storekeeper of Lone Pine as being unusually well stocked with golden trout.

The year 1892 is especially memorable in the history of the planting of the golden trout in that it was during this season that the first hatchery propagation of the species was undertaken. Too, it was during this year that they were first exhibited to the public. Members of the Visalia Sportsmen's Club had long been desirous that the propagation of this splendid game fish be undertaken, and it was through the interests and efforts of the club that S. L. N. Ellis, equipped with four coal oil cans fitted with baking powder can lids, made a trip to Volcano Creek and procured about a hundred of the fish. These he carried to Lower Funston Meadows. At Funston Meadows he met Lieutenant Deane with a detachment of soldiers patrolling the

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Sequoia National Park. Lieutenant Deane detailed two of his men, Sergeant Moffitt and Private Scholberg, to take the fish to Mineral King. There the party was met by J. Sub Johnson and M. L. Weaver, who were members of the club and residents of Visalia. These two men took the fish in a spring wagon to Visalia, and from there they were shipped by train to San Francisco and were delivered to the Fish and Game Commission. The plan was to send the fish to the hatchery at Sisson. However, before the trout were sent on the last lap of their journey, they were exhibited not only at the Midwinter Fair but at Golcher Brothers store in San Francisco. Thirty-six fine specimens were finally shipped to the Sisson hatchery, twenty-one reaching their destination in good condition, but the experiment was not considered satisfactory.

In 1896, the first plant of the true golden trout, *Salmo roosevelti,* was made. All previous plantings had been either of the *Salmo aguabonita* or *Salmo whitei* variety. During the summer of this year Mr. S. L. N. Ellis, accompanied by his son, L. L. Ellis, and a friend, F. J. Hill, planted the North Fork of the Kaweah—known as Dorst Creek—with fish taken from Volcano Creek, the original home of *Salmo roosevelti.* In the same season, Mr. Ellis in attempting to carry some of the fish from Volcano Creek to the North Fork of Kaweah, found that the trout were not standing the trip well and so decided to plant some of them in the Kaweah near Mineral King, and about twenty-five others, which were sick, in Silliman Creek and Willow Meadow. Nothing was ever heard of the latter plants. When in Mineral King, Mr. Ellis met the artist, Petrie, and showed him the golden trout, which were the first that the painter had seen. He was so charmed by their rare beauty that he soon afterwards used the fish as the subject for a painting.

The following year an unsuccessful plant of the golden trout was made by Mr. J. M. Nelson, in Nelson Creek, a tributory of the Tule River. Also some cattle men carried fish from Whitney Meadows and planted them in Rock Creek. Another plant of trout was made in Rock Creek in August, 1900, by Mr. M. W. Buffington, county surveyor of Kern County. He wrote Major George W. Stewart of Visalia that he and a party of other men carried the trout in small lard cans—about seven in each can—to Rock Creek and turned some of them loose; the rest they carried to the trail crossing and placed them there.

From 1897 to 1908 no authentic information regarding the planting of golden trout seems to be available, and that regarding the seasons of 1897 and 1900 seems to be rather incomplete. However, it was at this time that the government became actively interested in the protection of the golden trout. In 1903, according to Dr. Barton W. Evermann, Stewart Edward White, impressed with the possibility of the extermination of these trout, wrote to George M. Bowers of the Commission of Fisheries and to the President of the United States calling their attention to the matter, and on July 13, 1904, Barton Warren Evermann, Assistant in charge of the Division of Scientific Inquiry, Bureau of Fisheries, with a party outfitted at Redstone Park, Tulare County, left for the Whitney country to investigate the trout of the Kern River region. As a result of the investigation, the true golden trout of Volcano Creek was recognized as a new species, and w

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named after the naturalist, Theodore Roosevelt, who at that time was president of the United States.

The United States Bureau of Fisheries made an extended study of the trout, and in 1905 an attempt was made to establish a temporary hatchery station on Volcano Creek in order that the eggs of the golden trout might be obtained. But the spawning season was over before operations could be started. Two hundred and sixty-four trout were taken during the season to the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland, but as the result of an accident the entire lot was lost. Aside from the year-round, closed seasons for the golden trout adopted at a later date, the general program suggested was as follows: (1) The catch of golden trout should be limited to less than the number allowed for other trout. (2) Fish culture should be promoted, and (3) the limits of the Whitney Military Reservation should be extended to include the whole of Volcano Creek.

That the fish is a hardy fish seems to have been rather well demonstrated in 1906. In March of that year the Fish and Game Commission undertook to collect some specimens of the fish for exhibition purposes at the "Forest, Fish and Game Exhibit," held in San Francisco. About fifty specimens of the trout, *Salmo agua-bonita* were taken from Cottonwood Creek, a stream the temperature of which is about 38°, and were transferred to water which was about 60° in temperature. They lived in their new environment for some two weeks or more. But at the end of the exhibition period, when the fish were sent to the Sisson Hatchery, about three-fourths of them died, evidently due to the added travel and the more or less depleted condition of the fish. Another instance of their adaptability and hardiness was reported by A. D. Ferguson. In 1913, he investigated a plant made by Deputy Bullard, in 1911. Bullard had stocked a small creek at Traweeks, in Fresno County, with golden trout. The stream is at an elevation of 3500 feet and the temperature during the summer months reaches about 75°. Mr. Ferguson says, "I found golden trout of various sizes in considerable numbers in this creek. A specimen some twelve inches in length, I judged to be one of the original plant."

In 1908 the Sierra Club did some splendid work. The club in making their plants used two ten-gallon Buhl cans with airholes in the covers. On July 7, they caught 110 trout with hook and line, the trout ranging in length from four to six inches. They were secured at the head of Long Meadow on Volcano Creek and were packed for about three hours to a lake in Rocky Basin. Only one fish was found to be dead and that was due to the way in which it had been hooked. On July 15, the head Sierra Club packer, Mr. J. Robinson, and his family caught 54 trout in Rock Creek averaging from 10 to 12 inches in length. They had undoubtedly been planted in the creek several years before. These were taken to a lake at the head of one of the branches of Rock Creek. The third plant, made under the supervision of Mr. Wm. E. Colby, Deputy Fish Commissioner, was of 50 trout from the above named creek. They were planted in Whitney Creek.

According to Mr. A. H. Hogue, forest supervisor of the Inyo National Forest, 600 golden trout from Little Whitney or Long Meadows were taken to Gardner Creek during the same season.

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It was in the year 1909 that the Fish and Game Commission first took charge of the planting of the golden trout. Previous to this time the work had been done by sportsmen or clubs at their own expense. After the Commission took hold of the work, improved pack cans were provided and the loss of the fish in transportation was much reduced. The work of distributing the golden trout on the east slope of the Divide was carried on by Deputy E. H. Ober, who in the face of many difficulties successfully transferred 1500 trout, ranging in size from two to seven inches, to Independence, over the Hockett trail. There the outfit was divided, half went over to Kearsarge Pass via Lake Charlotte to Gardner Creek and Gardner Lakes, and the other half went to Grouse Meadows on the head waters of the Middle Fork of the Kings River, via Bishop and South Lake on Bishop Creek. The fish for this plant were obtained by diverting the creek at Long Meadows from its course.

District Deputy A. D. Ferguson of Fresno, assisted by Deputy S. L. N. Ellis in the field, directed the work in the Kern River, Kings and Kaweah basins, on the western slope. Mr. Ellis says in regard to his experience:

"On my return trip from Whitney Meadows, I brought back three mule loads of golden trout for planting in Roaring River and nearby streams with scarcely any loss. This was partly due to improved pack cans, but more especially to the fact that I had learned that the fish can not stand too long a trip. Prior to this time I had made eleven or twelve hours a day and had lost as many as 75 per cent of my fish. On this trip I learned from observation that by making short trips—say of five or six hours a day—a much greater percentage of the fish could be saved. Up to seven hours the fish can keep away from the sides of the cans, even though the trail may be very rough, but after this time they become exhausted and are bruised by striking against the sides of the containers. During the stops made, the cans were set in a creek and fresh water allowed to flow over them. Prior to this time my idea had been to hurry the fish to their destination as quickly as possible."

The following year Mr. Ellis' party took 183 adult *Salmo rooseveltí* caught with a seine at Whitney Meadows and planted them in the watershed drained by the tributaries flowing in to Roaring River. They lost only six of the trout although they travelled for six days over 100 miles of extremely rough country. Mr. Ober and his assistants, Sam McMurray and George Hall, in the same year covered about 115 miles and stocked Center Basin and Bench Lake as well as the head waters of the South Fork of the Kings. This made the total plant for July and August, 1910, more than 1800 large golden trout distributed among twenty-three lakes and streams in which no fish had previously existed, but which were rich in fish food. In a recent letter Mr. Ober says, "I felt that the waters I had selected would be ideal for fish, and my judgment seems to have been good, for in 1918 I took two golden trout out of Bench Lake that weighed three pounds each."

The following summer Mr. Ellis and Mr. Ferguson, with a group of friends and assistants, secured over 1300 *Salmo rooseveltí*, by changing the course of the stream at Little Whitney Meadows and by hook and

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line. Ferguson at this time procured twelve or thirteen *Salmo agua-bonita* golden trout from Cottonwood Lakes and Creek. All of the trout were delivered to the Fish and Game Commission's fish car at Lone Pine and were shipped to the Sisson Hatchery. A few of the *Salmo agua-bonita* were exhibited in Sacramento. Deputy Bullard, who had helped with the pack, took, in the course of the return trip, a hundred trout from Volcano Creek, which he planted in the North Fork of the Kaweah, Indian Basin and Traweek Creek.

Those who visited this great wonderland of the southern Sierra Nevada began to find not only the ordinarily beautiful trout, but in previously uninhabited streams they saw darting forms of gold and silver, and the fishermen rejoiced. However, in order that the pleasure of golden trout fishing might be better assured to the ever-increasing numbers of fishermen, the law which is incorporated in the penal code is as follows:

"633. Every person who, at any time between the first day of October and the thirtieth day of June of the succeeding year, takes, catches, kills, destroys, or has in his possession, any variety of golden trout; or who, at any time, takes, catches, kills, or destroys, any variety of golden trout other than with hook or line; or who, at any time, takes, catches, kills, destroys, or has in his possession, during one calendar day, more than twenty golden trout, or has in his possession any variety of golden trout of less than five inches in length, is guilty of a misdemeanor. Every person found guilty of any violation of any of the provisions of this section must be fined in a sum not less than twenty dollars or be imprisoned in the county jail, in the county in which the conviction shall be had, not less than ten days, or be punished by both such fine and imprisonment, and all fines collected for any violation of any of the provisions of this section must be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the fish commission fund. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Fish Commission of this state from taking at all times such golden trout as they deem necessary for the purpose of propagation or for scientific purposes."

In 1912 the packhorse distribution work was confined to Madera and Tuolumne counties, so that it was not until 1913 that Deputies Ellis and Smalley, with a splendidly equipped pack train, proceeded with the program for the transplanting of the golden trout. On September 1, Ellis and Smalley left Whitney Meadows with 821 *Salmo roosevelti* to plant Roaring River and tributaries. It had been an unusually rainy season in the mountains, and all during their previous golden trout plants they had been handicapped by finding trails obstructed and streams swollen. The fish, too, were difficult to catch. But undaunted they left Whitney Meadows with the 821 trout, descended the Kern River Canyon, crossed the Kern-Kaweah Divide to Mineral King, ascended Timber Gap, descended again to the Kaweah Canyon, and on over the Kings-Kaweah Divide via Elizabeth Pass to Roaring River. Some of the trout had been in the cans fourteen days, yet despite the hard travel and circuitous route only five trout were lost. At the close of the season 87 plants had been made of the species and with no exception the species used by the Commission in the golden trout plants had been the *Salmo roosevelti.*

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About 5000 adult golden trout, *Salmo roosevelti*, were taken with hook and line in 1914, and were transplanted to barren waters. Thus the range of the trout was extended for more than 150 miles along the summit of the Sierra from Volcano Creek.

One thousand nine hundred seventeen marked a new step in the distribution of the golden trout. In that year it was decided to undertake the propagation of the golden trout. Cottonwood Lake, though situated in an inaccessible part of Inyo County, was decided upon for the spawning station, and despite the difficulties which had to be surmounted 500,000 eggs were taken and were successfully transported by pack animal to the new Mount Whitney Hatchery. At the hatchery they were "eyed" and afterwards were distributed in the waters of that section. It is from the Mount Whitney Hatchery that the more recent plants have been made, and Mr. Ober reports that during September and October of 1919, he made plants of the trout in two beautiful lakes at the head of Woods Creek, Little Pine Creek and South Fork Lake on Big Pine Creek. Several plants have also been made in Yosemite National Park.

FIG. 38. Spawning golden trout at Cottonwood Lakes. Photographed by N. M. Scofield.

Thus it is that through long endeavor and splendid cooperation this marvelously beautiful golden trout, a fish that appeals to every sportsman, has been protected, and distributed in one of the most inspiring sections of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

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TABLE SHOWING PLANTS OF GOLDEN TROUT.

Date planted	Lake or stream	By whom planted	Source of supply	Species
1876	Cottonwood Creek	A. C. Stevens, S. V. Stevens and Thos. George.	Mulky Creek in Mulky Meadows	*Salmo agua-bonita*
1876 or 1875	East Fork of the Kaweah at Mineral King.	Wiley Watson and others	Upper Little Kern	*Salmo whitei*
Late 70's	Lady Franklin Lake	Arthur Crowley, W. A. Ward, Wiley Watson.	Little Kern, "over the divide"	*Salmo whitei*
1880	Upper and Lower Monarch Lake and Mineral King Creek.	Mark Lavelle and "Nick" Wren	Little Kern, "over the divide," or Farewell Gap.	*Salmo whitei*
1885	Head of South Fork of the Kaweah near Evelyn Lake.	G. W. Cahoon	Soda Creek at Quinn's Horse Camp	*Salmo whitei*
1887	Coyote Creek (tributary to Big Kern)	Jas. McIntyre	Rifle Creek	*Salmo whitei*
1892	Cottonwood Lakes	E. H. Edwards, Jas. Moffitt, B. H. Dutcher.	Cottonwood Creek	*Salmo agua-bonita*
1892	Wet Meadows (head of South Fork of Kaweah).	G. W. Cahoon	Little Kern	*Salmo whitei*
1892	Exhibited in San Francisco; taken to Sisson Hatchery.	Caught by S. L. N. Ellis; delivered at Lower Funston Meadows to Sergeant Moffitt and Private Scholberg; Mineral King, M. L. Weaver and J. Sub Johnson.	Volcano Creek, above bridge	*Salmo roosevelti*
1896	North Fork of the Kaweah (known as Dorst Creek).	S. L. N. Ellis, L. L. Ellis and F. J. Hill.	Volcano Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
1896	Marble Fork of the Kaweah(?) Silliman Creek.	S. L. N. Ellis	Volcano Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
1897	Nelson Creek (tributary of the Tule River)	J. M. Nelson	Volcano Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
1900	Rock Creek	M. W. Buffington	Volcano Creek(?)	*Salmo roosevelti*
1906	Exhibited in San Francisco; taken to Sisson Hatchery.	R. W. Requa	Cottonwood Creek	*Salmo agua-bonita*
1908	Whitney Creek	Sierra Club	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
	Crabtree Meadows	Sierra Club	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo rôosevelti*
	Rock Creek	Sierra Club	Long Meadow	*Salmo roosevelti*
	Lake at head of Rock Creek	Sierra Club	Rock Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
1908	Gardner Creek	George Hall, Ben Ransom	Little Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1909	Gardner Creek (South Fork of Kings)	E. H. Ober, Geo. Hall, Ben Ransom, Frank Lenott and Sam McMurray.	Little Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1909	Grouse Meadows and lakes in vicinity	E. H. Ober, Henry Bell	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1909	Crabtree Fork of Big Kern	S. L. N. Ellis	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
	North Fork of Kaweah	S. L. N. Ellis	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
	Whitney Creek	S. L. N. Ellis	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
	Guitar Lake	S. L. N. Ellis	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*

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	Rock Creek	S. L. N. Ellis	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
	Lakes on Rock Creek	S. L. N. Ellis and J. H. Shallenberger	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1910	Waters flowing into Big Kern from east; Lake South America; Rock Creek; Perrin Creek; Table Creek; Guyot Creek; Lake Monotha; Monotha Creek; Lake Bernice; Neds Lake; Lake Aldula; both branches East Fork of Big Kern; Crabtree Creek; Lone Pine Creek; Kaweah Deadman's Creek.	S. L. N. Ellis, E. C. Ferguson, Ray C. Ellis.	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1910	Clover Creek; Boggy Meadows; Freeman Creek; Lloyd Meadows; Peppermint Creek in five places.	A. D. Ferguson, S. L. N. Ellis, Ray C. Ellis.	Little Kern	*Salmo whitei*
1910	Headwaters of the South Fork of Kings River, upper basin; Bench Lake, center basin; head of Bubbs Creek, East Vadette Meadows	E. H. Ober, George Hall, Sam Murray	Volcano Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
1911	North Fork Kaweah; Indian Basin Creek; Traweek Creek.	F. A. Bullard	Volcano Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
	Sisson Hatchery	Jack Broad, K. L. Hughes, S. L. N. Ellis, F. A. Bullard, A. D. Ferguson	Volcano Creek	*Salmo roosevelti*
1913	Unnamed lakes and small streams of Kern River; watershed lying west of Whitney Divide and drained by Tyndall Creek, Whitney Creek, Crabtree and East Fork of Kern.	S. L. N. Ellis, E. W. Smalley	Big Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1913	West Fork of Roaring River (tributary to South Fork of Kings River) and streams and lakes tributary to Deadman's and Sugar Loaf creeks.	S. L. N. Ellis, E. W. Smalley, F. A. Bullard	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1914	Desolation Lake; unnamed lakes on south side of Piute Creek; Piute Creek; French Canyon Creek.	S. L. N. Ellis, E. W. Smalley, A. D. Ferguson, P. G. Redington, F. A. Bullard, O. P. Brownlow and others.	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1914	Heart Lake; Marie Lake; headwaters of Bear Creek; Shadow Creek.	F. A. Bullard, O. P. Brownlow	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1914	Shadow Lake; Garnet Lake; streams in vicinity of Thousand Island Lake, tributary to South and Middle forks of San Joaquin; Middle Fork of San Joaquin at Agnew Meadows.	F. A. Bullard and O. P. Brownlow	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1914	Tributaries of upper Big Kern; lakes in vicinity of Mount Geneva; Craig Ericson; Cliff Creek; Middle Fork of Kaweah; Lone Pine; Meadow Lake; Tamarac Lake.	Carl Westerfeld, R. D. Duke, A. D. Ferguson, S. L. N. Ellis, F. A. Bullard, O. P. Brownlow and others.	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*

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Date planted	Lake or stream	By whom planted	Source of supply	Species
1914	Horse Corral Creek; Lewis Creek; Wildman Creek; Slide Creek; Kennedy Creek and tributary lakes; lake at head of Lost Canyon; Grizzly Creek at Burns Meadows.	F. A. Bullard, Walter Williams	Whitney Meadows	*Salmo roosevelti*
1917	Vicinity of Mount Whitney Hatchery	F. A. Shebley	Spawning station to Whitney Hatchery (station is on Cottonwood Lakes).	*Salmo agua-bonita*
Sept., 1919	Head of Little Pine Creek; South Fork Lake on Big Pine Creek.	E. H. Ober	Mount Whitney Hatchery	
Oct., 1919	Two lakes at head of Wood's Creek; Southeast Fork of Kings.	E. H. Ober	Mount Whitney Hatchery	

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THE GROWTH OF THE SWELL SHARK WITHIN THE EGG CASE.*

By HELEN M. EDWARDS.

On March 17, 1920, a young shark in the egg case was received from Mr. Kiati Nasu, secretary of the Southern California Fishermen's Association, through the kindness of Mr. E. M. Nielsen, of the Fish and Game Commission at San Pedro, and of Mr. Lingle, of the Bureau of Fisheries, who brought it to Hopkins Marine Station, Pacific Grove. The development of the fish has been watched with much interest, because the species was unknown and the process of development had not been seen in any of our western sharks.

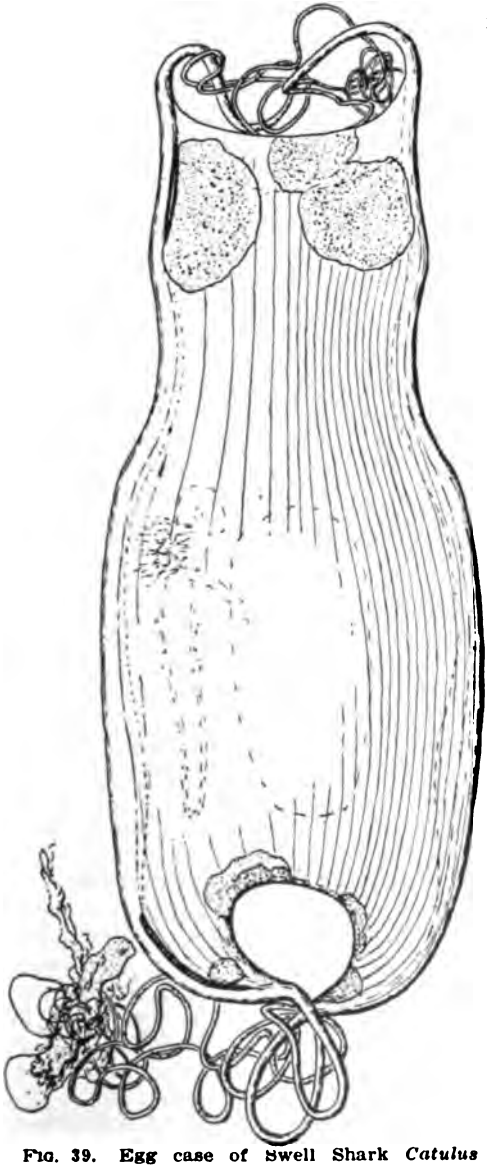

FIG. 39. Egg case of Swell Shark *Catulus uter*. Natural size.

Upon receipt of the shark it was placed in a small salt water aquarium with running water, where it was kept during its development. At various times the aquarium was out of order, which made it necessary at such times to change the water on the fish two or three times a day or to move it into another aquarium. It is a question whether or not the process of development was retarded or hindered in any way by these disturbances. We are under obligation to Stanford University and to Dr. W. K. Fisher, the director of Hopkins Marine Station, for the use of the aquarium.

The case, as shown in the accompanying drawing, was 116 mm. long and 49 mm. wide. One end, comprising about one third of the length of the case, was considerably smaller, and of a different shape from the larger end. The acute angles of the latter met and continued in long slender tendrils, for the purpose of attaching to seaweed, while similar tendrils were also given off from the angles

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 20.

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at the smaller end. The position and size of the fish and yolk, as seen through the opaque, dark brown, leathery case, are indicated in the drawing by broken lines. The fish was probably very young, for its length at the time of receiving was 43 mm., which exceeded the yolk by only 3 mm. The egg case had growing on it at each end colonies of bryozoans, which died and had soaked off by the end of four months.

At first there were no apertures in the case which could be detected, although each end contained two slight grooves, shown in the figure, situated on opposite sides of the case. To one facing the egg case, with the smaller end up, one groove was visible at each end on the left hand side. The other two grooves could not be seen without turning the case over, which would bring them on the left hand side. Those at the larger end were about 20 mm. long, and those at the smaller about 11 mm. On April 3 a small air bubble was visible inside the case, which proved the presence of an aperture. Upon examining the case and squeezing it gently it was found that water squirted out through a small slit at the larger end, which was one of the grooves beginning to open. By April 15 the other groove at the larger end and on the opposite side had opened. A little carmine was placed with a pipette near the apertures, but no marked current was visible. By May 20 both of the grooves at the smaller end had opened. These apertures, when completely opened, were about 1 mm. wide.

Attempts were made to measure the fish, but the results are only approximate on account of the opacity of the egg case, and of its constant activity, especially at first. The measurements were not taken at regular intervals, but the following table will give some idea of the rate of growth:

Date—1920	Length of Fish	Width of Head
March 17	43 mm.	
April 15	60 mm.	
April 29	67 mm.	
May 20	81 mm.	
May 25	87 mm.	16 mm.
June 7	104 mm.	19 mm.
June 17	115 mm.	22 mm.
June 24	123 mm.	25 mm.
July 6	130 mm.	26 mm.
August 19	155 mm.	27 mm.

Measurements were also taken of the yolk, the diminution of which is shown by the following table:

Date—1920	Length of Yolk Sac	Width of Yolk Sac
March 17	40 mm.	
April 15	37 mm.	
April 29	37 mm.	
May 20	35 mm.	
May 25	31 mm.	20 mm.
June 7	27 mm.	17 mm.
June 17	24 mm.	13 mm.
June 24	20 mm.	12 mm.
June 28	17 mm.	
July 1	14 mm.	
July 6	10 mm.	
July 17	5 mm.	
July 28	3 mm.	

Up until April 15, the yolk, though shortening, had kept the same general oval shape. At this time it became narrower and somewhat

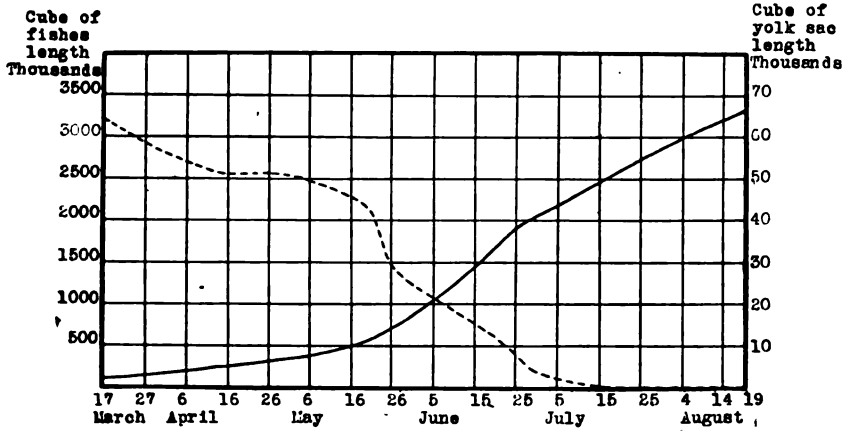

FIG. 40. Rate of growth of body and diminution of yolk of Swell Shark.
——— Bulk of fish according to cube of length.
- - - - - Bulk of yolk according to cube of length.

irregular in outline, but resumed the more oval appearance about May 25. By July 17 the yolk seemed to be entirely absorbed, leaving only a small round sac at the end of the umbilical cord, which was only about one-half of its original length, and by July 28 was reduced to less than an eighth of an inch and gave the appearance of a tiny knob on the ventral side of the fish. After hatching the only evidence of the cord was a little spot about the size of a pin head.

The rate of growth of the fish and the diminution of the yolk are shown in the accompanying chart. It will be noted that after the external yolk had been absorbed, about July 17, the fish continued steadily to grow, due probably to an internal supply of yolk. (See diagram.) Note also that from April 15 to 26 there was no change in the yolk shown in the curve, probably due to the fact that at this time the yolk was changing in shape somewhat and becoming narrower, while the length remained constant.

By May 20 the gill filaments, which were long and kept in constant motion by the movements of the fish, had entirely disappeared. They had been present in each gill slit and in the spiracles. Subsequent to this the breathing motion of the mouth was observed.

The color of the fish in the early stages was a uniform whitish. On May 25 a few dark spots were observed on the fins and by June 7, over ten weeks

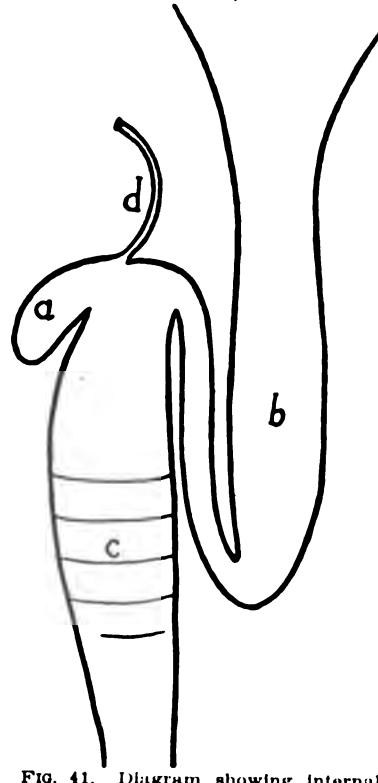

FIG. 41. Diagram showing internal attachment of so-called umbilical cord. *a.* Solid body filled with yolk. *b.* Stomach. *c.* Spiral valve. *d.* Umbilical cord.

before hatching, nearly the whole body was covered with about eight or nine pairs of black bands. At the time of hatching this distinct band effect was somewhat destroyed by the round black spots scattered on the bands.

The fish showed extreme activity at first, wriggling constantly and rhythmically, so that the taking of measurements was quite difficult. The most persistent motion was the back and forth movement of the tail, but occasionally the fish would curl itself into a tight knot and sometimes exhibit such violent activity, wriggling, squirming and flopping about, that it seemed likely to wrench itself loose from the yolk. Such violent activity usually lasted only a few seconds. Most of the time the movements of the tail back and forth were quite regular, while at other times they were very irregular and jerky. These were counted at various times and under various conditions. They seemed to be fewer and more regular in the shade than in sunlight. The experiments were as follows: when the fish was put in a shallow pan and placed in the shade, the tail moved very regularly back and forth from 60 to 70 times per minute; then when placed in the sun the motion became irregular and the count increased to as many as 120 per minute; the fish being placed in the shade again they were irregular and many at first, then dropped down to 78 per minute and became very regular; the pan being again placed in the sun, the movements were only 63 and very regular at first, but soon increased to 115 and were irregular; put back in the shade they decreased to 94. The probable purpose of the movements of the tail was to aerate the water by keeping it in circulation. By May 25 the fish did not show such constant activity. There would be long intervals of very little movement, if any, but at this time when the tail was in motion there were 110 movements counted per minute.

The night of May 25 the fish was left in the shallow pan on the table over night, on account of the failure of the water supply, and the next morning the sun had been shining upon it for some time until the water was almost hot. The fish was stretched out on its back with its mouth wide open, and showed no signs of life whatever. The water was cooled gradually, and within an hour the fish was as active as ever.

As the shark grew larger the activity decreased decidedly. By June 7 it was very inactive. Immediately after it was transferred from the aquarium into a glass jar, there were counted 125 movements per minute of the tail, and then all motion ceased until the fish was placed in the sun, when the activity was resumed. The light of the sun seemed always to increase the activity. When the egg case was handled or poked the fish would curl its tail around the yolk, then remain quiet. By June 17 the tip of the tail when curled around the yolk would reach the tip of the snout. During the last two months of its existence in the egg case, the fish was most inactive and the mouth movements were not always perceptible. At such times it was doubted if the fish were still alive. It was usually, however, with the exception of the last two weeks, sensitive to a jar of any kind. There was evidently more activity than was observed, for the head of the fish was not always in the same end of the case.

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The evening of August 19, five months after having been received, the egg case was hanging perpendicularly in the water with the smaller end up, and the head of the fish toward this end. During the night the shark struggled up through this small end, splitting it entirely across the top, freed itself from the case, and was found the next

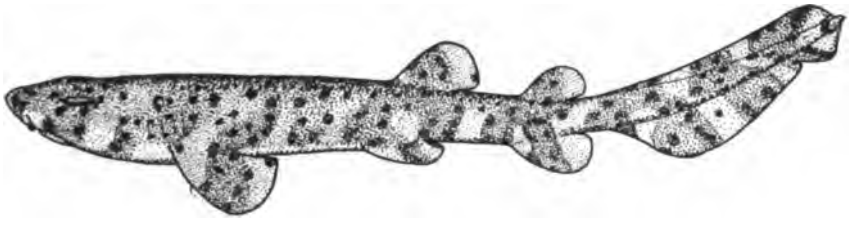

FIG. 42. Swell Shark, *Catulus uter*, the day after hatching. Natural size.

morning reposing on the bottom of the aquarium. The egg case was then examined and it was found that beyond this opening through which the fish had slipped the case was unbroken. One of the slits at this end had aided in making the exit a little larger. The shark was very inactive and remained in one place for a long while, only occasionally moving the fins or tail slightly. During the day it moved about somewhat on the bottom of the aquarium. The next day it was taken out and identified as *Catulus uter*, Jordan & Gilbert.

Figures showing the egg case and the fish immediately after hatching accompany this article.

NOTES ON DRY-FLY FISHING. No. 5.

By R. L. M., California.

SCENE: Camp fire in front of the hotel.

TIME: Evening of the day described in the July issue of California Fish and Game.

Dramatis personæ:

ANGLER.
TOURIST.
MRS. TOURIST.
SECOND TOURIST.
THIRD TOURIST.

Tourist: Here comes Angler. He promised to come around after supper. Angler, let me introduce you to my wife and the rest of our party.

Mrs. Tourist: Those trout we had for supper were delicious. They were so very much better than those that we caught at Pine Lake. I wonder why?

Angler: The fish we caught were stream fish and were in the pink of condition, for they had been feeding on insects, which is the best kind of food for a trout. Furthermore, they were in their natural

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environment. On the other hand, the fish in Pine Lake were Steelhead trout that, due to the formation of the country, can not run to the sea. The result is that their natural period of spawning is delayed, and I expect you saw the fish that you caught were not so plump as the stream fish were.

Second Tourist: They did not seem to put up much of a fight when hooked. They just gave one jump and then were brought in without any further struggle.

Third Tourist: Don't the fish in Pine Lake ever get into good condition?

Angler: In about six weeks time there will be a great change in them. It takes time for them to recover from spawning, particularly so as they have to get back into condition in a fresh water lake, rather

FIG. 43. Proper method of holding dry-fly rod. Photograph by R. L. M.

than in their real environment, the sea. Early in the season they are good, but they begin to fall off about the middle of June, and it is not until the latter part of August that they become fit again.

Mrs. Tourist: My husband has been telling us of the wonderful sport you had today. I wish we had been along instead of going over that rough road to the lake.

Second Tourist: Why didn't you begin to fish as soon as you reached the river? Tourist tells me that you waited for nearly half an hour before you began fishing.

Angler: When trout are not feeding on the surface it is very difficult to induce them to rise to a dry fly. One or two authorities on the art have stated that when the exact position of a fish is known, it can sometimes be coaxed to take a dry fly, if the fly is floated over it

a number of times. In order to be successful, it is necessary to cast as many as twelve or more times over the fish. Each cast has to be letter perfect and the fly should not be lifted off the water until there is absolutely no chance of frightening the fish. One mistake spoils everything. If the suspicions of the fish are once aroused, he loses all interest in the proceedings.

The theory is that by making a number of casts over the fish, you create in his mind the belief that there is a hatch of some fly coming on, and so long as no mistakes are made, the effort may eventually be successful. The fish in this river, however, seem to feed mainly on grasshoppers, and during the time that the grasshoppers are present in large numbers they pay very little attention to anything else.

Third Tourist: Don't the fish feed in the evenings, when there are generally lots of flies on the water?

Angler: Not during the time of the harvest of 'hoppers. You will notice a lot of small fish and some chubs feeding on these flies; but the larger fish are resting while their heavy meal of 'hoppers is digesting. Whenever you happen to be fishing in a stream where you know there are good-sized trout and you catch nothing but small ones, you can make up your mind that the big fellows are not feeding. When they do feed the little trout keep out of the way.

Second Tourist: Then as I understand it, when the fish are not feeding on the surface, a dry fly is not much good.

Angler: That is correct with one exception—there is of course the possibility of getting an odd fish by creating an artificial rise of fly. When the dry fly does not produce results, then we change over and fish with a wet or sunk fly and quite possibly get some fish.

Third Tourist: Why didn't you fish with a wet fly while you were waiting this morning?

Angler: First of all, I knew it was only a question of a comparatively short time before the 'hoppers would begin to fly. Then, again, these fish are shy. They are very wary and not easy to catch, as the result of the continual fishing that goes on day after day throughout the entire open season. I considered it best not to add still further to their education by raking the water with a wet fly when I was so sure that they would soon be feeding on the top.

Tourist: You remember speaking about "drag"? Should a dry fly always float with the stream and never move at all on the surface?

Angler: In general, yes. But there are times and occasions when a deliberate drag, that is, a drag produced by the fisherman himself, may get a fish to rise, when possibly if no drag had been made, he would pay no attention to the fly.

Second Tourist: This sounds interesting. Can you give an example from your own experience where a forced drag was successful?

Angler: Yes. A few weeks ago I was fishing farther north. During the latter part of the afternoon a lot of small sedge flies hatched out and got onto the water. These flies belong to a different family than that to which the majority of the flies that we see belong. The sedge flies light on the surface; fly up a short distance and light again. When they are on the surface, they frequently move, sometimes even

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running along the top of the water for a short distance. In olden times the antics they performed earned them the name of "caperer." On several occasions on this trip I placed my fly over a rising fish without any result. The fish was not "put down," because it went on rising. Finally, I decided to see what effect it would have if I made my fly copy the motions of the flies on which the fish were feeding. I had already cast three times for the particular fish that I was going to experiment on. However, I cast and as soon as the fly got near the place where the fish was feeding, I deliberately made the fly move slightly on the surface of the water. Well, the fish fell for it and I got him all right.

The same scheme worked again successfully once or twice, but until it has been further tested, it can not be regarded as a standard tactic to adopt. There will always be the doubt, "would not the fish have taken the fly without the artificially-produced drag?"

The fish in that section were harder to catch than the fish here in the river.

Second Tourist: Well, all I can say is—they took "some" catching if they were harder to catch than these boys here. Yesterday I fished for fully two hours, and never got a single bite. At home, I can always get a mess of trout without any trouble at all.

Third Tourist: Back where we come from, we never see as many people fishing as we have seen here. I expect that has something to do with it.

Second Tourist: You spoke of "drag" just now. I don't quite get you. What does it mean?

Angler: "Drag" is a term used to define the unnatural movement of the artificial fly on the surface of the water. The duns and spinners, Ephmeridæ, do not move on the surface, they merely float quiescent. Now, if an artificial fly that is intended to represent one of this family should suddenly start across the water leaving a wake behind it, the suspicions of the trout would be aroused at once and it would undoubtedly let "that queer acting fly" pass on. If they are very wary, they stop feeding for awhile, or as the expression goes they are "put down," which means that they gently sink to the bottom of the stream and do not come up again for some time.

The water, where I experimented with a forced drag, was very slow moving, so much so that to all intents and purposes, there was no current at all. The surface was like polished glass. Unless there is a breeze to ruffle the water the fish are always difficult to approach under such conditions. The forced drag was successful when there was no air stirring. As I remarked before, the fish were feeding on a small sedge fly. I had only one fly of this type with me, namely, "the Welshman's button." The fly was so totally unlike the natural one that I did not expect to do any good with it. However, I had lately been reading a book by "Red Quill" (James Englefield), who is an authority. He stated that he fished an entire season with only one pattern of fly, namely, the "red quill." He used it rain or shine, when the fish were rising to duns or spinners, and also when they were feeding on sedge flies. Thinking of his success I put on a small red

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quill and had some very satisfactory results from it. I also tried a Wickham's fancy, and was not exactly disappointed with what took place.

Third Tourist: But tell us, what causes "drag" and how can you prevent it?

Angler: There is not much danger of a "drag" where the surface currents are steady. But if the stream is faster or slower at the spot where the feeding fish lies than it is between that spot and the place where you are standing, there is bound to be a drag if your line falls straight across the water.

Third Tourist: But why?

Angler: Because as soon as the line begins to float down, the swifter portion of the surface makes the line belly out. This causes the fly at the end to move toward the belly of the line, in other words, to "drag" on the surface. This can be corrected, to a certain extent, by causing the line to fall in a curve, either up or down stream, as the current requires.

Second Tourist: But how can you make the line fall as it should?

Angler: By making the cast in a horizontal plane—side stroke—instead of a vertical plane, or overhead stroke.

Third Tourist: Tourist tells me that you hold your reel with the handle pointing to the left. Don't you find it rather awkward to wind up the line with the left hand?

Angler: Not so that you would notice it. I have brought some of my junk along and by using it to demonstrate with, I may be able to explain why I do this. Incidentally, I might remark that professional opinion tells me that my method is the right way, or as an authority recently told me, it is "academically the right way to fish."

Mrs. Tourist: What do you call "professional opinion?"

Angler: The expressed views of some of the leading manufacturers of fishing tackle.

Now, here is my rod with the reel on it. (See Fig. 43.) You will observe that I hold the line with my second finger. It has the longest reach and consequently I can, without moving the rest of my hand, get hold of the loose line and secure it with less trouble than any of the other fingers. To release the line, when I have hooked a good, gamey fish, I merely straighten out my finger for a moment. If I use the reel in this manner I am never bothered with slack line, for as soon as the fly is delivered, I wind up any line that may be hanging in a loop. The second finger reaches out and hooks onto the line and brings it down to the hand grasp as you see now. If the handle of the reel stuck out to the right I could not do this, unless I had a third or supplementary arm and hand on the right side. I will admit that with one exception all the angling writers advocate the handle of the reel to the right, but anyone who has tried the other way and learned how to wind with the left hand, which is extremely easy to do, never goes back to the other position.

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Third Tourist: There is something in that. But don't you find that you lose more fish your way?

Angler: My experience has shown me that adopting my method produces just the opposite result. For instance, I was fishing in a place where the fish, although they were large, were few and far between. One day I kept careful count of the rises I had. They totalled exactly three; not thirty-three, but three. How many of those rises do you suppose I hooked?

Tourist: One out of three would be a fair average. Two out of three would be remarkable. How many did you hook?

Angler: All three. Two of the fish were landed; the third got off by coming a few feet towards me and darting off under a sunken log. I couldnt keep him out because the only possible method would have been to push him away with the line, which was impossible.

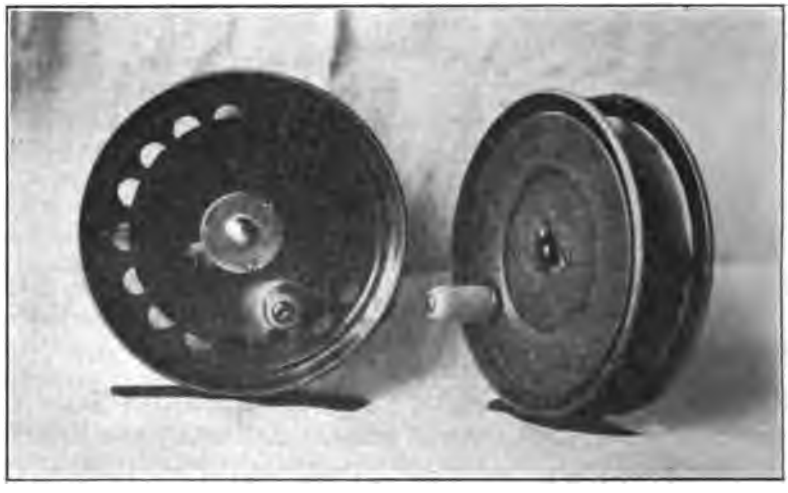

FIG. 44. A good type of reel for a dry-fly rod. Photograph by R. L. M.

Second Tourist: Won't you show us the rest of your paraphernalia?

Angler: Here are a couple of modern fly reels. (See Fig. 44.) They are short length spools of large diameter. Consequently, you can wind up line very fast with them.

Third Tourist: Did you ever use an automatic reel?

Angler: No. I do not think that they are satisfactory. The reel, besides being used as a device to care for the spare line, acts as a counter weight and balances rod. The weight of an automatic reel is so great that it overbalances any normal fly rod.

Here is an old-time fly box. This is known as the "Houghton" fly box and has been made for a number of years. I have had this particular one ever since 1899, but it is still in fair condition.

Tourist: Why the "Houghton"?

Angler: It is named after a famous old fishing club of that name. Ever since 1822, the club has leased or owned riparian rights on the

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Test, a river in the south of England, which is noted for its trout fishing and more particularly for the dry-fly branch of that art.

Mrs. Tourist: You have quite a nice collection of flies in that box. I notice that they seem to be graded from quite dark flies to some that are nearly white in their general makeup. Is it necessary to have many different kinds of flies?

Angler: Not absolutely. There are twelve different patterns there. As a general rule, there is sufficient variety in such a collection to find the right fly for the fish. The grasshopper fly is not there, but

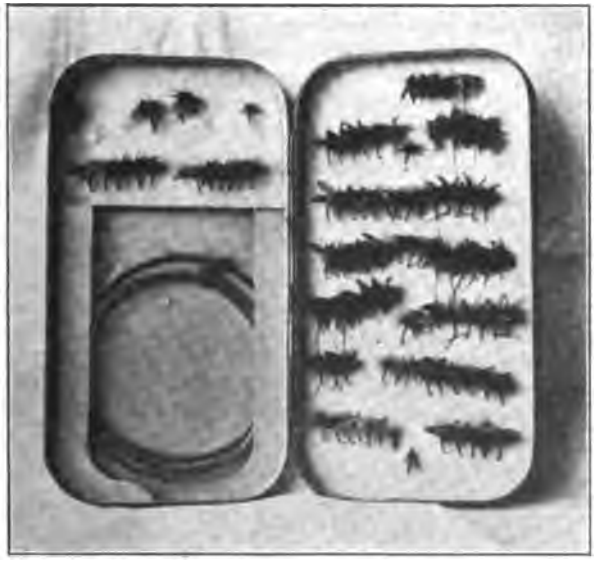

FIG. 45. Fly box and dry flies. Photograph by R. L. M.

that fly is more or less a purely local pattern. By that I mean, it would be worse than useless, unless, the fish were feeding on 'hoppers.

Mrs. Tourist: What are the names of your flies?

Angler: Well, here I have the red quill. These are Wickham's fancies. For a very light-colored fly, I use this, which is called Kingsley's cocktail spinner. The opposite, or the prince of darkness, is this one, which is known as Greenwell's glory. This is the medium olive dun, and this one is the witchurch dun. Then here is that old standby the hare's ear. This fly won distinction, for it was with it that the largest trout ever caught with the dry fly was hooked.

Third Tourist: How big was it?

Angler: It weighed twelve and three-quarters pounds and took one hour and a quarter to land. Its fortunate captor was the Reverend S. E. V. Filleul of Wareham.

Third Tourist: Some fish, I'll say so!

Angler: This fly is the whirling blue dun, and here we have the pink lady, the invention of Mr. George M. La Branche of New York. This animal with no wings is Tup's indispensable, which is supposed

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to represent the fly just at the moment it reaches the surface, before it has gotten rid of its outer skin and put its wings out. Finally, here we have the "whole dam dun family" and the "blood relation" or "first cousin" to the "dam dun family."

Second Tourist: Why such a name for a poor inoffensive fly?

Angler: This fly is intended to be a composite portrait of all the duns. Its cousin is a slight variation with woodcock wings and is very useful when the march brown fly is on the water. These two are my own design.

Second Tourist: Are they any good?

Angler: Well, the first time I used "the family" I got hold of a big trout that escaped by promptly getting down between some rocks and sawing off my leader. The next day at almost my first cast with the same fly I got a three-and-a-half-pound fish and long before it got dark or even the cows came home, I had caught the limit.

Mrs. Tourist: Which is your favorite fly?

Angler: The grasshopper, when the fish are feeding on it. But when they are feeding on small flies I have no first choice. The fact of the matter is that one fly is as good as another provided the size is right. The most important thing is to have confidence that the fly you are using is the one and only fly to use. If you can attain to this degree of perfection then you will catch fish. However, we are human and we have our doubts and in order to be on the safe side it is just as well to have a variety of flies along, even if you do confine yourself to only one or two patterns.

Mrs. Tourist: Well, we have had a most delightful visit, and if ever you come our way you must certainly come out to the ranch and have some fishing where there will not be so many people fishing all around you.

Angler: Here are a few grasshopper flies that may be useful in the future.

Tourist: Many thanks. And good luck to you.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

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OCTOBER 28, 1920.

It cannot be expected that wild life resources, if left to themselves, will continue to yield food and sport indefinitely. A constant supply can only be maintained through carefully planned protection and propagation, and the necessary expense involved in such an undertaking is justified by any results which are as outstanding as those of fish and game.

COMMISSION'S DUTY TO PROTECT FISH AND GAME.

We often hear unjust criticism of the Fish and Game Commission, because of the wrong attitude taken by many sportsmen. There are many persons who seem to think that the hunter or fisherman is better qualified to dictate as to what the law should be than the Fish and Game Commission. They fail to realize that they view questions from rather a selfish point of view. The members of the Commission are in a better position to know conditions and to judge as to needs than any individual or group of individuals, for it is their business and not simply their hobby. The Fish and Game Commission must stand as a barrier to protect fish and game. It takes into account the safety of the different species more largely than the desire of the man who hunts and fishes.

SUMMER RESORT EDUCATIONAL WORK.

The educational work in the Yosemite National Park carried on under the joint auspices of the National Park Service and the California Fish and Game Commission this past summer proved to be very popular and very much worth while. The work was designed to bring useful information regarding wild life and the methods of conserving it to the summer vacationist. The term "Nature Guide Service," applied to it, but partially explains the different fields of endeavor. In addition to the scheduled field trips for both adults and children, formal lectures and campfire talks were given at the various resorts. Such game birds as the band-tailed pigeon, mountain quail, Sierra grouse and spotted sandpiper encountered on the different field excursions gave splendid opportunity for the discussion of the present status and the methods for the conservation of these different game species. Wild life films and stereopticon slides were used to illustrate the lectures. An office hour held at the National Park Service office gave Yosemite visitors a chance to have questions answered. A total or nearly 1400 persons, a large number of whom were children, were given first hand information regarding birds, mammals and fish through the medium of field trips, and over 25,000 persons through the medium of lectures. Thus does the plan grow for making "conservationists out of summer vacationists."

THE GRIZZLY.

In the Conservationist for August, 1920, Mr. Enos Mills has contributed a short appeal on behalf of the vanishing grizzly. The need for the protection of this splendid animal in California was not appreciated soon enough. California, where the grizzly was but a short time ago found in considerable numbers, is now without a single representative, and it is to be trusted that the people who live in the sections of our country where he is still to be found will not be so short-sighted.

Mr. Mills says: "The grizzly is distinguished by keenly developed senses, alertness, sustained curiosity, and superior mentality.

"Although the grizzly in not ferocius, and although he does not eat human flesh, most people unfortunately believe the contrary. One is as likely to be assaulted by a jack rabbit as by a grizzly, and far more likely to be chased by a tame cow or a civilized dog.

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"The grizzly destroys many pests—rats, mice, rabbits and grasshoppers. Most of his food habits are economically beneficial to mankind. Exceptional grizzlies have turned cattle killers; but cattle or big game killing is confined to exceptional individuals and not to exceptional doings of all grizzlies.

"The grizzly has courage, loyalty and individuality. * * * Our race loses if the grizzly goes. He is the master touch to arouse the imagination, to perpetuate the strange primeval memories, to give the wilderness its supreme spell."

We hope that the conservationists who are interested in the protection of this monarch of the wilds will be successful in spreading the gospel of their conservation and that early attention will be given the black bear that it may not follow the grizzly.

BEAVERS INCREASE IN THE ADIRONDACKS.

A careful study of the beaver in the Adirondacks has shown that this fur-bearer is now so abundant that an open season is not only safe but necessary to prevent too much damage being done to timber and cultivated crops. In the day of the trapper the annual exportation of beaver pelts from New York State alone amounted to 8,000. This was in the days of the beaver hat, in the year 1663. By 1820 beavers were so reduced in numbers that they probably numbered a little more than 1,000 in the Adirondacks. In 1895 it has been estimated that there were not more than five or ten animals left in this same region. About this time efforts were made by sportsmen to not only protect the beaver, but to restock some of the streams. In 1906 some actual restocking took place, 34 beavers in all were released during the restocking period, and at the present time, 14 years later, the beaver in the Adirondacks are easily estimated at from 5,000 to 10,000. Beavers are now so abundant that considerable damage is caused by flooding timber areas and obstructing navigation.

The simple remedy for the conditions as they now exist is to ask the New York Legislature to open the season on beavers, and this will be done.

This is another case similar to that of the deer in Vermont, where restocking proved eminently successful. Wild animals have wonderful powers of recuperation and if given a chance will quickly restock the area. Better, however, than restocking is the conservation of a sufficent breeding stock.

STATE FAIR EXHIBIT.

The exhibit at the State Fair which drew so much favorable attention last year was remodeled and improved for the 1920 fair. The observation platform was moved farther away, additional foothills were added and a miniature electric train, with bridges and tunnels, was installed and better lighting effects supplied. It will be remembered that the exhibit is a cyclorama, showing the Sierra from Mount Shasta on the north to Mount Whitney on the south, with miniature hatchery buldings in the foreground, and still nearer in the foreground a large lake containing live trout. Of particular interest this year were the added cloud effects. While changing colors which light the mountains show the change from day to night. clouds sweep across the sky and later the stars appear. This is followed by the rosy tints of morning.

Visitors to the fair unhesitatingly stated that this exhibit was not only the finest exhibit on the fair grounds but the finest ever shown in the West, even exceeding any of those shown at the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

As in previous years there was a splendid aquarium display of food and game fishes, including the famous golden trout.

LAW LEGALIZES CARRYING OF GUN IN CLOSED SEASON.

At the last session of the legislature jack rabbits were placed on the predatory mammal list, thus not only allowing killing at all times but allowing the killing of them without a hunting license. Granting that the jack rabbit is a pest and needs no protection at the present time. yet this law gives the alien hunter and violator a chance to carry a gun the year around, thus making law enforcement particularly difficult. More and more it becomes evident that the carrying of a gun during certain seasons of

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the year should be sufficient cause for arrest. Otherwise, on the plea of hunting jack rabbits, the violator has a chance to be in the field during the closed season for quail and other game. All sportsmen should be alive to the danger if this law continues to stand on the statute books.

MORE TRAINED CONSERVATIONISTS.

That there is increased interest in wild life is clearly shown by the educational opportunities offered in institutions of learning. Cornell University has been offering splendid courses on game propagation and more recently there has been formed at McGregor, Iowa, the American School of Wild Life Protection and Propagation. The aim is to establish an institution that will not only fill the interest and needs of the individual student, but one which will at the same time further the discussion and elucidation of large questions, such as water supply, despoliation of forests and the indiscriminate draining of lakes. It will be remembered that there has been considerable agitation for a national park in the near vicinity of McGregor, consequently the location of this school is ideal. The faculty will be made up of noted scientists connected with Iowa State University, Morningside College, Cornell College and Iowa State College.

With a new fisheries college established at the University of Washington and the two institutions mentioned above, there should be no lack of trained men to fill situations connected with our conservation departments. It is to be hoped that there will be a larger body of trained men and that other institutions will be forced to offer work of a similar nature.

MUD-HEN STEW "HUNTER STYLE."

Many a hunter having bagged a mud-hen throws the bird away because he does not realize its food value. When properly cooked the mud-hen is delicious, only surpassed in flavor by the better ducks. Mr. W. W. Richards offers the following recipe, which has been used for many years at "Green Lodge", his duck preserve on the Suisun marshes:

Mud-Hen Stew.

Mud-hens.
½ pound salt pork.
1 medium sized onion.
Potatoes (as desired).
½ dozen cloves.
Half a bay leaf.
Salt.
Pepper.
1 teaspoon curry powder.
2 tablespoons flour.

Skin the birds—*do not* pick them—and soak them a few hours, or all night, in water to which has been added a little salt. Then remove the birds from the salt water and put them in a kettle containing sufficient water to cover them. Let the water come to a boil, then pour the water off; add half a pound of salt pork, cut in dices; cover with hot water, and let boil about one hour. Then add half a dozen whole cloves; one medium sized onion cut up fine; half a bay leaf; salt and pepper to taste; and peeled potatoes as desired.

Mix one teaspoon of curry powder and two tablespoons of white flour with enough water to make a smooth paste, and add this to the stew and let it cook about half an hour longer before serving it.

Serve with boiled rice as a side dish, if desired.

MAKING CONSERVATIONISTS.

What more unpleasant reflection could be made on the sportsmen and the people of the United States generally than in the statement quoted: "Though game protection in the United States is now more than two hundred years old, it has not protected the game?" As early as 1709 there was a closed season placed upon deer, wild turkeys, heath hens and partridges, in the state of New York, with a fixed penalty for violations of the law; and today the most important game animal in New York State is the rabbit. The wild turkey and heath hens are extinct and the deer and partridges are maintained only under the protective measures of the State Conservation Commission. However, such demoralizing evidence is of inestimable value if it makes the people of each and every state think of its own wild life and the best

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ways and means of affording it protection. New York has arisen to its responsibilities and can well be a splendid example to most states. Mr. Pratt of the Conservation Commission of New York believes that the crux of the whole problem is to be found in having laws, based on exact knowledge and biological investigation, carried out by an efficient game protective force.

There is no doubt that the value of having an intelligent, efficient, nonpolitical body of men as game wardens can hardly be overestimated. But of what lasting value was the Prussian military system without the united support of the entire populace? Of what value is any system without cooperation? Of major importance is the development of moral force, and this is accomplished through the education of the people. If the state game wardens can stand as educators of the people then, indeed, they can be even more justly proud of their worth. Make it the people's affair, the people's interest, the people's pride to protect the wild life in the state, and the people, not a small struggling minority, will protect the wild life of the country.

New York is visualizing the cause by an emblem designed for permanent use, a small celluloid card interpreting the emblem being given with each one. The cause is becoming popularized, and the creed is one which we should all stand for:

"I believe that 'God has lent us the earth for our life. It is a great entail. It belongs as much to those who are to come after us as to us, and we have no right, by anything we do or neglect, to involve them in any unnecessary penalties, or to deprive them of the benefit which was in our power to bequeath.'—Ruskin.

"That, in a great democracy of free people, the protection of wild life and the preservation of all other natural resources, which underlie national prosperity and happiness, must depend, finally, as does the stability of the government itself, upon the support and willing service of every citizen.

"I therefore declare my adherence to these principles, and have enrolled myself as an active Conservationist of the Empire State."

When the people carry this creed in their hearts rather than on a celluloid card in their vest pockets, the conservationist will have won his hard earned struggle. M. K.

PRESERVATION OF INLAND MARSHES.

Mr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the United States Biological Survey, has recently pointed out the importance of furnishing migratory waterfowl with places where they can stop to rest and rear their young. Certainly one of the most important factors in the decrease of waterfowl is the reclamation of swamp land, which has furnished a food supply and safe breeding place for these birds. In the propagation of domestic birds we all know that the most necessary things are food supply, shelter and safe breeding sites, and it is not hard to see that wild birds are dependent for their existence on these same three things. The desire of the American people to commercialize absolutely everything is leading to the reclamation of marshes which in reality are more valuable as breeders of waterfowl than as agricultural producing areas. As Mr. Nelson has pointed out, the marsh lands under intelligent management will yield abundant returns to the community, as indicated in the following summary of their productiveness:

1. Production of food and game fishes.
2. Wild fowl, shot for sport and food.
3. Furs, from such fur-bearers as the muskrats, skunks, and raccoons which frequent their borders.
4. A natural ice supply.
5. A definite and invaluable help in maintaining the underground water level in various parts of the state, and in helping to hold back the runoff of rainfall to prevent excessive erosion.
6. Opportunities for healthful and interesting recreation for the citizens of the state.
7. Where such water areas are included in state parks or reservations, they lend themselves admirably to educational uses, and help interest the people of the state in out-of-door life and in the natural resources of the state in the form of plant and animal life.

That some states are becoming alert to the danger, arising from the demand to drain many bodies of water, is shown by the fact that the Conservation Commission of Iowa is working out plans

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which will permit the saving of desirable water areas from ill-considered drainage, and Minnesota recently, under the decision of the state courts, has saved water areas from drainage, on the ground of their value to the public in their natural state.

It is high time that California should be aroused to the danger which threatens the wild life of the state by the continuous drainage of water and marsh areas. Discussion along this line is timely and immediate effort must be made, if suitable areas for waterfowl are to be maintained.

ANOTHER SPORTSMEN'S CREED.

1. I deem it a point of honor never to shoot a sitting bird (except cripples). I will not pot-shot, and I will not stand for it in my party.

2. I will measure the success of my day afield not only by the size of my bag, but by the number of cripples I leave behind me. I would rather get a mess of game with no lost cripples, than to kill the limit and leave the woods full of lost game. Accordingly, I will shoot to kill, and *I will not shoot out of range.*

3. I am against "piecing out" the other fellow's limit. I am against the "dummy license." The legal limit applies to the man, not to the party. If I can't kill my own game I don't want anyone else to kill it for me, and I expect my hunting partners to look at it the same way. If they don't, they don't need my company.

4. I will not clean out a covey. "Leaving some for seed" is one of the first principles of sportsmanship.—*"The Pine Cone,"* July, 1920.

THE AIRPLANE VIOLATOR.

Not long after the invention of the airplane, it was found that a man-made machine could easily overtake flying waterfowl and that hunting was thus made easy. Hunting from an airplane has grown in popularity and more than one state has found that some restriction must be placed in the game laws to prevent too great a toll being taken. Game law violators who ride in airplanes are difficult to apprehend, as are also the automobile violators. It will be remembered that at the last session of the legislature California prohibited the shooting of game from airplanes, automobiles, and sailboats, as well as from power boats while in motion. Of no less importance than hunting from an airplane, is the stopping of the shooting of hawks and other birds from an automobile. Not only are many hawks and other valuable birds killed by the man desiring something to shoot, but persons traveling along the same road are endangered.

FRANCE DEMANDS GAME REPARATION.

France is awake to the fact that part of the reparation owed her by Germany is to be found in the game destroyed in the regions where heavy fighting took place and in that which Germany took to augment her diminishing food supply. An association of French sportsmen have demanded that Germany repay the gunners of France by restocking the game reserves so entirely depleted by German invasion, rather than by making reparation with money. The sportsmen were so insistent in their demands that they convinced the reparation council of the importance of their stand, and France is now to demand from Germany and Austria live game to the value of 35,000,000 francs. Germany and Austria must each furnish, in four half-yearly installments, 250 stags, 1000 hinds, 200 male and 400 female roe deer, 200,000 male hares and 400,000 female and 3,000,000 brace of partridges. In addition, Austria must furnish 1,000,000 pheasants. The greater proportion of the game will be liberated immediately upon arrival, under the supervision of experts. The balance will be held on game farms as breeding stock, these farms to be controlled and operated by the French government.

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FACTS OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Salmon have been caught on hook and line as far up the Sacramento River as Sacramento this season. It seems probable that the exceedingly low water, combined with an invasion of salt water far up the river, has had something to do with the unusual catch.

Angling interests have been threatened owing to the drying up of many trout streams and lakes during the past summer. It has been impossible to stock many streams which have heretofore been stocked annually, because of the lack of water.

Hunting is growing more and more popular as is evidenced by the report of the sale of hunting licenses.

The Fish and Game Commission's State Fair exhibit proved to be the most attractive one of the 1920 fair. The one complaint was that people were unable to see the exhibit owing to the crowds.

Live golden trout were displayed again this year at the State Fair.

A new state fisheries laboratory is now assured, as the city of Los Angeles has furnished the Fish and Game Commission a long-time lease on a site at Fish Harbor, San Pedro.

The normal kill of deer has been made during the past open season, and reports show that deer are on the increase in many sections.

Twenty-five to fifty persons registered daily at the Tahoe camp ground this past season.

The new Tahoe Hatchery constructed at Walker Springs at the north end of the lake has been completed and is ready for occupancy.

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HATCHERY NOTES.

W. H. SHEBLEY, Editor.

TROUT DIE IN BEAR LAKE.

As is the case in most dry years, there has been a great loss of fish due to the drying up of lakes and streams. Stocking operations in many streams have had to be suspended this year because the streams were absolutely dry. Anglers in southern California have been justly disturbed over the death of thousands of fine large trout, many from three to ten pounds in weight, in Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains. What the future of fishing in this lake, which has heretofore been the mecca of most of the anglers of Los Angeles and nearby counties, will be, remains to be seen. Many are the theories advanced as to the cause underlying the destruction of fish. No matter what the immediate cause, whether bacteria or chemical poisoning, the underlying cause is doubtless to be found in the dearth of water.

SMALL TAKE OF EGGS.

Low water in the streams where spawning operations are carried on has prevented a large take of eggs for the hatcheries. In many instances streams were so low that fish were unable to proceed up stream far enough to reach the spawning station. At the Snow Mountain egg collecting station, where a large take of steelhead eggs is usually made (from 4,000,000 to 6,000,00) less than one-fourth of the usual take was secured—750,000.

GOLDEN TROUT LACKS HARDINESS OF OTHER TROUT.

Although golden trout eggs are being successfully hatched and the fry reared in our hatcheries, yet the adult golden trout appears to be a difficult one to keep in breeding ponds. Several attempts have been made to keep the golden trout at the Mount Shasta Hatchery but without success. Golden trout exhibited at the State Fair at Sacramento last September were moved to Sisson, but all died. Just why this species should succumb while others thrive is a mystery, as shipments from Inyo County come through in good condition and no trouble is experienced in keeping them in aquaria at the State Fair.

FIG. 46. A fine type of fish ladder. Inskip Dam, South Butte Creek, Tehama County, California. Photograph by A. E. Culver.

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THE TAHOE HATCHERY.

The new Tahoe Hatchery is now completed and ready for occupancy. It has become more and more evident for several years past that the supply of water at the old hatchery site was entirely inadequate, and several years ago property about one mile east was secured, together with the water rights to Walker Springs. In fact the site secured is the only one available at the present time. The springs furnish a purer and colder water supply than any stream flowing into the lake. Furthermore, a supply of water from springs is more dependable than that from a stream, in that there is less danger of lack of water during a dry season. The new hatchery contains sixty-four troughs and will have a capacity of about two and a half million trout. Provision has also been made for breeding ponds and nursery ponds. A superintendent's cottage is being built.

This new hatchery is made the more necessary because of the lack of water at the Tallac Hatchery during the past few years. The new Tahoe Hatchery is of sufficient size to handle practically all of the black-spotted trout operations.

The old hatchery building will be utilized as a laundry and community center in connection with the camp ground.

THE OLD AND THE NEW.

In 1888 the Mount Shasta Hatchery consisted of one building, forty by sixty feet, containing forty-four troughs. Its capacity was a few hundred thousand trout and salmon. At the present time the Mount Shasta Hatchery comprises seventeen acres with five large hatching houses containing 450 troughs, together with superintendent's cottages, spawning house, kitchen, barn, sheds and garage. Fifty large rearing ponds for trout and three larger ponds for salmon complete the equipment. The hatchery output averages more than 10,000,000 trout and salmon per year.

FOOD FOR TROUT INTRODUCED.

The Department of Fisheulture is endeavoring to conserve the fish supply by introducing new trout food in the lakes of the southern Sierra and Tahoe basin. Insects, such as salmon flies; crustaceans, such as gammarus; and aquatic plants are being introduced.

COMMERCIAL FISHERY NOTES.

N. B. SCOFIELD, Editor.

THE STATUS OF THE TUNA.

The Fish and Game Commission recently received a letter from one of our leading sporting magazines calling attention to the fact that a seaplane had been used at San Pedro in locating schools of tuna. They also sent this Commission a letter which they had received from a Californian protesting against this "contemptible practice" as they called it, and stating that the "fish canning companies of the state by this method are destroying this wonderful Pacific Coast fish, the tuna."

As this is the kind of opposition which any new method of fishing receives, whether it is actually destructive or not, the reply made is appended:

The tuna has been recognized as a commercial fish for many years in Europe. The only reason it has not been recognized as a commercial fish on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States is because we have not appreciated its value as a food fish. So far the tuna, which we call here the blue-fin or leaping tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*), has been taken in commercial quantities only a couple of years, and we are quite sure that the species is in no immediate danger of being exterminated or of being seriously depleted.

The albacore, which the United States Bureau of Food and Drugs permits our canners to label as long-finned tuna, and which is the whitemeat tuna found in the markets, has been taken commercially in large quantities for the last seven or eight years. The albacore is taken with hook and line only but the quantity taken in one season has been as high as thirty million pounds, or six times the weight of blue-fin tuna taken in any one year.

This Commission has been employing fisheries investigators for the past three years to make a thorough investigation of the albacore to determine if it was being overfished and likely to become seri-

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ously depleted in numbers. At the beginning of this investigation three years ago, there was available accurate data of the catch for three years preceding, so that now we have had six years accurate data of the catch upon which to pass an opinion as to whether it is being overfished. The evidence is quite conclusive that the albacore is not in danger of being depleted and we consider that it needs no protection as yet. The tuna which is mentioned in your letter is a closely related fish belonging to the same genus and it is not at all likely that it will be taken in large enough quantities to seriously deplete the supply for at least several years to come.

This state is collecting accurate data of the catch of each commercial species of fish and this data shows not only the total catches of each variety but the catch per unit of fishing gear. By means of this data we are keeping a better watch on the fisheries than is any other state and we will be able to detect depletion of any species before such depletion has advanced beyond the danger point. We are not taking it for granted that the resources of the sea are inexhaustible; we are going on the assumption that any species may be exhausted if we catch it in large enough quantities. We are watching the tuna fisheries as well as our immense sardine fishery very carefully and we wish to assure you that there is no cause for alarm in the fact that an occasional seaplane is used to locate schools of tuna.

As yet there is no demand in the markets for the canned blue-fin tuna, in fact, there is not the demand there should be and it is not likely that the fishing for blue-fin tuna will need restricting until the public do come to appreciate it as a valuable food product.

We do not consider the use of seaplanes in locating schools of fish as a "contemptible practice." This method of locating fish has been used but little on this coast. On the Atlantic coast, as you may know, the United States Government, with the sanction of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, is aiding the fishing industries to locate fish by this means. Seaplanes were used last fall at San Diego in locating schools of sardines. These seaplanes were furnished by the United States Navy and had the sanction and assistance of the State Fish and Game Commission.

BUREAU CHIEF INSPECTS CALIFORNIA FISHERIES.

Dr. H. F. Moore, Deputy Commissioner of Fisheries, made a tour of inspection of California fisheries and the United States Bureau of Fisheries' Preservation Laboratory at San Pedro during September on his return from the Pan-Pacific Science Congress at Honolulu. This is Dr. Moore's first visit to this coast for several years. A full week was spent on a survey of the fisheries, this being occasioned by the recent rapid growth of our fisheries and more especially by the fisheries conservation work now being done by the State Fish and Game Commission. Dr. Moore has expressed himself as being very favorably impressed with the conservation work under way in this state.

TUNA FISHERIES INVESTIGATED.

A recent visitor to this coast is Dr. Kamakichi Kishinouye, of the College of Fisheries, Tokyo Imperial University, Japan, who is making a special study of the comparative anatomy of the Scombroid fishes, or in other words, the fishes of the mackerel family. He finds that the yellow-fin and the blue-fin tunas have a remarkable set of blood vessels which surround the liver and extend into the strip of dark meat along the side of the fish, which strip is so noticeable in the fishes of the mackerel family. The albacore, or long-finned tuna, does not show this unusual development, at least in such a marked degree.

The remarkable part of this is that this particular arrangement has never been described by anatomists or fish investigators. It is believed to have some direct bearing on the fish's ability to withstand cold water.

Dr. Kishinouye is spending some time in southern California in order to make a study of this structure in the three species of tuna found in those waters, *i.e.*, blue-fin, yellow-fin and long-fin tuna. He also wishes to determine if these three fish are of the same species as those found in Japan. He suspects, from work he has already done on the anatomy of these fishes, that the Japanese blue-fin tuna is a different species from the one found in the Mediterranean Sea. Heretofore these two, as well as the blue-fin tuna found in California, have been considered the same species.

In Japan the blue-fin and yellow-fin tuna are caught by immense trap nets placed rather close inshore. The long-finned tuna, or albacore, cannot be caught in this manner as they do not approach the shore, living only in quite deep water. The albacore is taken to some extent in

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gill nets but the principal method of catching is by the use of long lines, similar to the lines used by the California Fish and Game Commission in its experimental fishing for albacore in southern California waters a year or so ago. They have found this the most successful way of catching albacore and the most economical. The principal bait used is fresh squid. The method of using hand lines and lines on short poles, as employed in California, is used only to a limited extent in Japan. It is his idea that the use of the short poles, which is known to our fishermen here as the "Jap pole method," is only successful at times when the albacore are very plentiful. The long lines, he states, are most successful in catching albacore in the spring and fall of the year, and these are the times when the albacore catch is the largest.

It may be of interest to note here that the experimental fishing done by this Commission some time ago demonstrated the fact that by the use of long lines the albacore may be taken at times when they are not feeding at the surface and consequently cannot be taken by surface fishing methods such as the use of short hand lines and the "Jap pole method." The blue-fin tuna also takes the long line and hooks quite freely.

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF FISHERIES, SAN PEDRO LABORATORY.

The work of the United States Bureau of Fisheries Preservation Laboratory at San Pedro is being temporarily continued by the Fish and Game Commission until funds can be obtained by the Bureau. There is hope that the bureau will get an appropriation which will enable it to continue the laboratory from the first of January and to reimburse the state for what it has spent; although this last, while possible, is hardly probable. The bureau continues virtually to direct the work although the state, in order to get due credit, appears as the operator and will publish the preliminary reports of the work. The Commission entered into this arrangement believing that by so doing it would aid in the expansion of our fisheries and would prevent the almost total loss of the laboratory's preceding year's work. It was believed that by so doing the fish canners of the state would be pleased and all others interested in the wellfare and development of the fishing industry.

In helping to this extent there was the desire to aid a federal bureau which stands for the development and conservation of the fisheries as does no other bureau—a bureau which for many years has carried on fisheries conservation work in this state and which it is hoped will continue to carry on in the future.

The laboratory, a year ago, undertook fish canning experiments which for good and sufficient reasons were scheduled to continue over a period of two years before their completion. It was necessary to continue this work for the bureau in order to tide it over a temporary financial depression and thus preserve to the state the bureau's well-equipped laboratory and the bureau's inclination to continue this valuable line of research work. If we had not done so the years' work would have been lost as well as the $20,000 already expended.

The United States Bureau of Chemistry has established a laboratory at San Diego for work similar to that which is being done in the preservation laboratory of the United States Bureau of Fisheries at San Pedro. There is plenty of work for both laboratories and each should receive encouragement. The Commission is doing all it can to prevent duplication of work by the two bureaus and to bring about a correlation of their activities. Mr. Almy, who will supervise the work of the laboratory of the Bureau of Chemistry, and Dr. Alsburg, head of the bureau, have assured the Commission that they desire to cooperate to a sufficient extent to avoid unnecessary duplication of work.

OCTOPUS FISHING IN JAPAN.

Recently several octopi were brought into the San Francisco markets which had been caught by the local rockcod fishermen on rockcod gear. In a recent visit from Dr. Kamakichi Kishinouye of the Tokyo Imperial University, Japan, some very interesting information concerning the methods used in fishing for octopus in Japan was gained.

One method used is as follows: Long lines are let down to which are attached earthenware pots or vases of the right size to accommodate the octopus for which

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they are fishing—we should judge these pots would average 1½ to 2½ feet deep and from 8 to 14 inches in diameter. Some of these pots are suspended with the mouth down, others suspended with the mouth up from the long horizontal line. Each pot has a small hole in the bottom to let the water easily escape when the pots are raised. The pots are not baited, and since it is the habit of the octopus to find a hiding place in the rocks, they crawl into the mouth of the pot and remain there until they are pulled out. The pots are set one day and pulled the next; one boat will handle about 200 pots. Ordinarily buoy floats are not used to locate the lines but they are picked up with a grappling hook, for it is believed that the floating buoy disturbs the pots and prevents the octopus from entering.

They are also caught by means of hook and line. In this method the fisherman baits the hooks, several of them on a long line, and when they have lowered them until they come in contact with rocks, they continually jerk the lines. The octopus, in feeding, reaches out its arms to get the bait with its sucking discs and the jerking of the hooks catches the arms or tentacles.

SILVER SALMON AT MONTEREY IN 1920.

Since the last two seasons in California have shown relatively poor catches of king or Chinook salmon there is an increased interest among fishermen and packers in the other possible species of salmon that might serve to fill in the breach, especially during bad years. The most abundant of the lesser species is the silver salmon, a fish of lower oil content than the king and therefore less desirable for canning, although it sells readily on the fresh markets. Along our northern coast it forms a large per cent of the salmon catch. The southern boundary of commercial salmon fishing (Monterey) seems to be almost out of the range of the silver salmon. The salmon investigation now being conducted by the Commission has gathered some information as to the relative abundance of the two principal species and from time to time further notes on their occurance, seasons, abundance and worth on the markets will be published.

In a recent number of *California Fish and Game* (Oct. 1919) it was noted that the silver salmon in 1919 did not appear at Monterey, just for a few days, but that they were caught in small numbers over a period of eleven weeks with a heavy catch on four or five days during the period. Detailed notes were kept in the 1920 season's run in Monterey Bay and it was found that the appearance of silver salmon in small numbers extended over a longer period this year and that they were not caught in great numbers during any four or five consecutive days as was true in 1919. At no time this year did they outnumber the king salmon. In 1919 the first silver salmon was noted on May 10, while in 1920 the first was caught on April 19. During the remainder of April, 1920, a few were caught each day averaging between four and five pounds apiece. For instance, on April 23, the silvers made up 4.4 per cent of the catch in number of fish and 1.6 per cent in weight, the rest of the catch being kings. During May there were very few silvers caught at Monterey, but on June 1, they formed about one-fifth of the catch. On June 2, the silvers were 18 per cent in number and 8.2 per cent in weight of the catch and averaged a little less than 7 pounds apiece. June 3, and 4, the silver catch was somewhat less and from the fifth to thirteenth of June there were only a few silvers caught. On June 14, the silvers picked up to 15.3 per cent in number of fish and 7.7 per cent in weight in the catch. By June 17 they were 24.2 per cent in number and 17.5 per cent in weight in the catch and averaged 7.8 pounds each. From June 18 to 21, the silvers averaged about 7.9 pounds but the per cent in the catch dropped off. On June 22, the silvers in the catch were 19 per cent in number of fish and 8.8 per cent in weight with an average weight of 7½ pounds and the average weight dropped to 7 pounds for the following week. By this time the king salmon season was about over so that the silver salmon caught, although few in number, formed a relatively higher proportion of the catch. For example, on June 24, the silvers in the catch were 33 per cent in number and 22.8 per cent by weight. June 25, the per cent of silvers dropped to 18 and from then on for the remainder of the season there was only an occasional silver salmon caught.

W. L. S.

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OCEAN AND STREAM SALMON CATCHES.

Frequently the question is raised as to the relative importance of trolling and stream netting for salmon in California so that a summary of the figures of total salmon catch may be of general interest. The 1920 figures are not yet complete. The following figures, in round numbers, represent yearly total salmon catch of the state in pounds of fish in the round.

	River caught.	Ocean caught.	Season total.
1919	5,987,000	7,158,000	13,145,000
1918	7,173,000	5,920,000	13,093,000
1917	5,493,000	5,563,000	11,056,000
1916	5,342,000	5,501,000	10,843,000

There are three chief trolling regions: (1) Shelter Cove, (2) vicinity of San Francisco, (3) Monterey Bay. The two chief netting regions are the Sacramento river and the northern coast streams such as the Eel, Klamath, and Smith rivers. The 1919 salmon catches for these regions expressed in percentage of the total catch of the state are as follows:

Region.	Per cent	
Ocean—		
Shelter Cove	22	
San Francisco	11	
Monterey Bay	22	55
Stream—		
Sacramento River	35	
Northern Rivers	10	45
	100	100

The salmon caught at Monterey, outside San Francisco, and in the Sacramento River are generally classed together as a unit since it is assumed that they result from spawning in the Sacramento. At present a possible restriction of the trolling and netting of salmon is being discussed. A contrast in the catch by these two methods is shown by the following table of catch in round numbers of pounds:

	Mont. Bay.	Outside S. F.	Troll fish.	(Taken with nets) Sac. River.
1919	2,816,000	1,443,000	4,259,000	4,529,000
1918	2,893,000	1,929,000	4,822,000	5,938,000
1917	3,880,000	1,280,000	5,160,000	3,971,000
1916	5,231,000	263,000	5,494,000	3,451,000

There are changes from year to year in the importance of the salmon fishery of any one locality. For example, the catch at Monterey has dropped off while the Noyo-Shelter Cove catch has been steadily increasing due to the recent development of the industry at those northern trolling points. In 1917 the total from the Noyo-Shelter Cove region was less than a half million pounds, in 1918 over one million and in 1919 only a little less than three million pounds. A minor item of interest is that each year a few salmon are caught by trolling and netting along the coast of the southern counties far to the south of Monterey. Last year 10 pounds were reported, in 1918 one thousand and in 1917, 2000 pounds. W. L. S.

THE SALMON SEASON AT MONTEREY.

The Monterey salmon season of 1920 was even poorer than last year. The catch is roughly estimated at one-fourth of the normal or about one-half of last year's catch. In round numbers the Monterey catch (exclusive of Santa Cruz) was 1,200,000 pounds, this year as opposed to 2,316,000 pounds in 1919. The early season's catch this year was better than a year ago, but there was not the customary large run during the latter half of May and the first two or three weeks of June. The season practically ended in June, but there was a small catch on two or three days near the end of July. The local trolling fleet was about quadrupled by the addition of boats from northern points, but the poor catch was so discouraging that many fishermen returned to San Francisco during the middle of the season.

In spite of the fact that each year has seen a steadily increasing number of boats trolling for salmon in Monterey Bay, the yearly catch has been dropping off, as shown by the following figures, in round numbers, of pounds of salmon caught in the bay.

1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
2,816,000	2,893,000	3,879,000	5,231,000

As stated above, the 1920 catch is little more than half that of 1919.

W. L. S.

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NOTES FROM THE STATE FISHERIES LABORATORY.*

WILL F. THOMPSON, Editor.

THE FISHERIES LABORATORY AND ITS WORK.

At the time these notes go to the editor, considerable progress has been made toward the establishment of a permanent laboratory building for our work. The most encouraging advance in that direction has been the granting by the city of Los Angeles to the Fish and Game Commission of a long-term lease to a site at Fish Harbor, San Pedro. It is situated at the intersection of Seaside avenue and Tuna street, and will be most accessible to all canners and fishermen who may be interested.

A description of the site and the discussion of the plans for the building, of which rough sketches are at hand, may await the time when the plans are in finished condition, but it will be well to state now as clearly as possible those ideals to which the Commission is planning to dedicate a unique institution. Such a statement may save misunderstanding and opposition, and should give to those interested an appreciation of the underlying purposes such as will enable them to comprehend the reasons for the choice of site and for the plans adopted. The site was chosen because of its proximity to the canneries and the fish wharves, making it possible to follow easily the progress of the fishery. The plans adopted are intended to give good working room for a statistical and biological study of the fisheries for the purpose of conservation and adequate utilization and at the same time to allow an exhibit to those interested of the purposes of the work and its relation to the fisheries.

That the primary purposes of the investigations of the California Fish and Game Commission are conservation and adequate utilization has been stated many times. But such purposes have been repeatedly avowed by investigators, whose programs when adopted have betrayed a primary interest in general natural history, and have shown little relationship to the problems to be solved. The scientific program of the Commission has, however, been planned very specifically to meet the problems which are involved in governmental control of the fisheries, and are adapted to meet the responsibilities of the state as legal guardian of those natural resources. The machinery for the execution of this program is, in fact, already operating in part, and its purposes are stated very clearly in the laws of the state as duties of the Commission. Section 1 of the particular law referred to is as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the Fish and Game Commission to gather data of the commercial fisheries and to prepare the data so as to show the real abundance of the most important commercial fishes; to make such investigations of the biology of the various species of fish as will guide in the collection and preparation of the statistical information necessary to determine evidence of overfishing; to make such investigations as will bring to light as soon as possible those evidences of overfishing as are shown by changes in the age groups of any variety of fish; to determine what measures may be advisable to conserve any fishery, or to enlarge and assist any fishery where that may be done without danger to the supply."

The law then goes on to make provisions for the statistical system now in use as one of the bases for the scientific work. This system is to the best of our knowledge one without parallel in any country, and it has already proved itself superior to any statistical system we are acquainted with. It registers the catch of every boat, leaving its record for subsequent study by scientists in conjunction with other records by which changes in apparatus and economic conditions may be discounted, in order that there may be obtained a measure of the fluctuations in abundance of fish from year to year. It will be inevitable, in the future, that any scientific program carried on by the possessors of such complete records as by this law we shall eventually have, will be a program designed to discover the meaning of such records in terms of abundance and scarcity of fish. That there are faults in the system must be granted, but the faults are infinitesimal compared to those of statistical systems depending

*California State Fisheries Laboratory, Contribution No. 21.

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upon estimates and hearsay. The laboratory will provide for the filing and the study of these records.

But this statistical work is only a part of the program, and in formulating both this and the biological, which is in a way the more important, the Commission has had before it the several programs adopted during the last two decades in other countries, notably in those bordering the North Sea and our North Pacific, and from these programs and their results it has been possible to decide within somewhat narrow limits what knowledge is necessary to competently legislate for our fisheries. The failures and successes of others during the recent great advances in fishery science have profited us. And in this fact is seen the reason why the program for the proposed laboratory will be a really vital one, *dealing with questions which actually face the legislator and the men interested commercially.* It will lack the vagueness of random natural history investigations, and it will avoid the limitation in value of technological research. In the future we may justifiably hope that the investigations carried on in the new laboratory will further define and clarify the many problems to be met with.

And in thus reviewing the work in other fields perhaps the most obvious fact has been the absolute necessity of access to the vast store of specimens and data to be furnished by the commercial fisheries. No agency could afford to duplicate this store, despite its vital importance to any investigations. And this has, in fact, determined the location of the laboratory and dominated in the construction of its plans. Another obvious conclusion to be drawn from the work of others has been the necessity of obtaining popular support by exhibiting to those interested the purposes of the work, and its achievements, as well as by showing graphically the necessity for it. Because of this there has been planned an exhibit room.

The great scientific value of this work may not be immediately obvious to the scientist who is interested in some of the more basic laws of biology. It may appear too practical. Yet this definition of aim, and practical trend actually heightens the value of the work from the standpoint of general science. The problems faced by the legislator are, in striking degree, the same as those in which the student of geographical distribution, and of evolution is or should be interested, and the material offered by the commercial fisheries far exceeds in extent that which can be obtained through other sources. The degree of isolation of different races and the extent to which it leaves its traces on the morphology or habits of the species is of great importance to one pondering the value of protection to a species overfished in a particular locality, just as it is to the man interested in the formation of races and species. The rapidity of growth, the distribution of pelagic ova or larvæ by currents, the response of the species to changes in surrounding conditions, all affect both the conclusions of the naturalist and those to whom the apparent abundance of fish is vitally important. Above all, however, our program will be most vital to the progress of hydrographical science in its relation to the food supply of man, through what is in reality the most essential purpose of our work—the measurement of the actual abundance of fish in the ocean. The effect of hydrographical conditions on fish can not be measured without a knowledge of the real abundance of fish, of the rate of growth, and the habits. So, in addition to being dedicated to the service of competent legislation for conservation and utilization, the laboratory will be in a very real way an essential part in the progress of more general scientific knowledge.

W. F. T.

PROGRESS OF THE ALBACORE WORK.

During the past summer Mr. Thompson has been pursuing in so far as possible the study of the albacore, with particular reference to its age and rate of growth. Mr. Rich and Mr. Sette have been stationed since June at San Diego and San Pedro for the purpose of collecting for Mr. Thompson certain measurements and statistics bearing on the various problems.

The study of the age has progressed to a point where the results are being prepared for publication. The age marks on the scales being illegible save in part, a special technique was necessary in order to decipher them. This was the more necessary in that serious questions have arisen in some quarters regarding the ac-

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curacy and care with which age readings have been made in the cases of other species—and indeed, well-known biologists have openly challenged the fact that scales and otoliths actually do show age. The work on the age of the albacore has demonstrated clearly and unmistakably the absolute correspondence of the actual age of the fish and the marks on the scales by a method entirely free from the influence of the worker's personal judgment. Painstaking and time-consuming as the work has been, it has proved entirely worth while, and is the first direct knowledge we have of the age of any of the species of the mackerel family on this coast.

These results show the albacore to be a fast growing species, with all that implies regarding the effect of commercial fisheries upon it. Their discussion must await the final publication. But attention may be called to the fact that with their aid conclusions have been tentatively reached regarding the migration of the albacore. It is believed that the species shows a gradual migration to the northward through a period of years, but that the migration of any one year class is in general limited. The seasonal migrations are the most prominent and striking.

The summer's work has also continued to add to our material bearing on the migrations and the fluctuations in the run of fish and on the relationship of catch to temperature or some allied factor, thereby placing certain facts beyond dispute. These can not be treated very fully here, and it is hoped that as soon as the work on the age is out of the way, attention may be turned to these data, which will, it is believed, prove highly interesting. The data at hand are exceedingly extensive, perhaps more so than the data available for any other fishery, as the records for the whole industry from its beginning have been collected. The results are already well defined, but remain to be placed in shape for publication.

It will be recalled that we have analyzed the relative abundance of fish during past years (see Pacific Fisherman Year Book, 1919) and found a steady fall in the catch of the same unit of gear from year to year. We ventured to say, however, that this fall was not, judging from various things, due to depletion, and the events of this summer have reassured us in this regard. The catch has shown an increase and the reappearance of younger classes of fish, both encouraging signs. The possibility that overfishing may occur is not, however, eliminated.

W. F. T.

PROGRESS OF THE CLAM WORK.

Since April, 1919, F. W. Weymouth has been devoting a portion of his time to the completion of a survey of the shellfish of the California coast commenced several years previously by Will F. Thompson. A report is now ready for the press embodying all the collected data. The primary purpose of the survey has been to put on record the number and abundance of the species of commercial importance and the location and condition of the beds at present being utilized. The scope of the report has been extended by the inclusion of descriptions and figures, together with a key for ready identification of some forty species of present or possible commercial value. Heretofore no such key has been available, and it is hoped that by this publication, campers and amateur clam diggers can be made acquainted with the edible bivalves of the coast. Besides the description and range of each species an account of its habits has been included. Though many collections of attractive and interesting "shells" have been made, there are few observations on the varied habits of these animals and it is hoped that those recorded in this report may lead to more study of the remarkable ways in which the bivalves are adapted to the diverse conditions of life under which they are found.

In connection with this survey certain important points have developed. One is the need for a more detailed study of the life history of at least some of the more representative and important species. At present, though several of the eastern species have been carefully investigated, no facts concerning the age or rate of growth of a single native Pacific species are known.

In an attempt to remedy this lack, data have been collected throughout the year on the Pismo clam, one of the most important California species, and these are now being carefully studied. The preliminary work indicates the main features of the age and as soon as it can

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be completed it will be put in form for publication. It appears that the growth is less rapid than has been supposed and that a considerable age is reached by the larger specimens met with.

A careful survey of the coast has forced the conclusion that few of the native species can be materially increased by artificial means, but that in certain suitable bays the "farming" of the introduced soft shell or long clam might be made very profitable. Its culture has passed the experimental state on the eastern coast and profiting by this experience many acres of otherwise barren tide flats might be made to yield as sure and valuable a crop as a wheat field. It is hoped that in the future the question of the control of suitable tide lands may be put on as secure a basis as is the management of existing oyster lands, thus making such clam farming a practical possibility.

F. W. W.

PROGRESS OF THE SARDINE WORK.

The investigation of the sardine fishery is being continued along lines laid down in previous publications in this magazine (Volume 6, No. 1, pp. 10-12), and in Fish Bulletin No. 2. Mr. Elmer Higgins has, during the past season, been made responsible for the carrying out of the program at San Pedro, while Mr. O. E. Sette has been, until this last June, responsible for the same at Monterey, both under the direction of Mr. W. F. Thompson for the present. Mr. Sette, who is leaving this fall for a resumption of his college work, will continue his sardine work while at college. The principal attention of both of these workers has been concentrated on the discovery of the rate of growth through a study of the frequency of occurence of various sizes of fish, and the following of fluctuations in average size, sex, maturity, quality, etc., during the fishing season. In view of the importance of the sardine industry, somewhat more attention is given to an exposition of this work than is the case with the other fisheries with which we are dealing.

The program under which the work has been done contemplates (1) the discovery of depletion if it should occur; (2) the discovery of any great natural fluctuations in abundance or quality other than those due to overfishing; (3) the foretelling of these fluctuations, which in other fisheries have at times caused great damage; (4) the deciphering of those habits of the species which are of importance to the canner and fisherman, such as migration, and (5) a knowledge of such facts as will aid the legislator. The absolute completion of this program is without doubt well removed, but contributions to it of great value will be made in the very near future, enabling us to make at least provisional answers, a thing impossible now. Among these we may list the age and rate of growth, the breeding season, and the degree of independence of the sardines in different regions. That the foretelling of fluctuations is not visionary may be seen from the work of the Norwegian fishery authorities on the herring. The other elements of the outline given are dependent entirely upon the records we obtain—and we are acquiring the very best possible.

A certain amount of preliminary work had been done by Mr. W. F. Thompson, assisted by A. W. Warnock and others before the inauguration of the present investigations a year ago. In this preliminary work the breeding season had been observed at San Pedro (as mentioned by Mr. Higgins below), a series of scales collected for the study of the age, and a set of careful observations made on the differences between the sardines from San Diego, San Pedro and Monterey. The latter observations, as bearing on the possibility of the interdependence of the sardines in different regions, have been completed by Mr. Higgins in addition to his own work and reports on the conclusions may be expected in the near future.

PRESENT STATUS OF THE SARDINE INVESTIGATION IN THE SAN PEDRO DISTRICT.

In the study of the sardine fishery, as distinct from that of the fish itself, the course of the run at San Pedro—the abundance or availability of the fish from day to day throughout the season—has been studied by analysis of the daily average boat catch. This was determined by tabulating and averaging the individual catches of each boat day by day, the data being obtained from the filed carbon copies of the original fish receipts issued by the canners to the fishermen at the time of

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delivery. This tabulation and analysis of the average boat catch, including the records of some 110 boats, is in course of completion. Careful consideration, however, has been given such artificial factors as market or labor conditions in arriving at a conclusion as to the daily abundance of the species and an effort has been made to take them into account.

The character of the season's run has been studied by taking a twenty-pound sample of the fish from the individual boat loads day by day at the time of unloading at the canneries, together with data on the locality and time of the catch. To date, 182 such samples have been taken from boats unloading at seven canneries in San Pedro and Wilmington, and from them the average weight, average length of the fish in each boat load, the size or age groups represented, sex and degree of sexual maturity, were determined. From these samples about 5000 individual fish have been specially measured and sexed. And from these data the spawning habits, the class of fish taken, and the variation in the catch have been studied. The degree of mixing of age or size groups, or the degree of uniformity of size in different schools is also being investigated.

The measurements of the large series of fish above mentioned, in addition to indicating the character of the run, have been tabulated to show the frequency with which fish of each length occur. This tabulation of length-frequency is the oldest reliable method of determining the age of fishes (see *California Fish and Game*, Vol. 5, No. 2, p. 53), and the curves or graphs prepared from our figures give undoubted indications of the ages of the various sizes of commercial importance.

The study of the maturity and spawning habits of the sardine at San Pedro was begun two years ago when Mr. Thompson and assistants made series of examinations of the condition of the roe during the spring of 1918 and 1919. The results of these observations were published in this magazine in July 1919.* The same observations were repeated during the past spring season by the writer and in addition to the records of spent and relatively mature fish, the roe of about 140 fish was preserved at weekly intervals and deposited in the laboratory collections for future microscopical study. The records of the maturity obtained while measuring the large series of fish mentioned above have also been tabulated and curves drawn to show both the relative numbers of immature, relatively mature, and spent fish present in each size group, and also the per cent of mature fish at each length.

The same series of measurements has been studied to determine the relative numbers and sizes of the two sexes, in regard to possible selective migrations, relative mortality, and differences in rate of growth. E. H.

*California Fish and Game, Vol. 5, No. 3, p. 159, July, 1919.

THE SARDINE PROBLEM IN THE MONTEREY BAY DISTRICT.

That the Monterey sardine fishery has increased in volume to eight times that of three years ago is evidence enough that the possibility of depletion can not be much longer ignored. The value of the present annual pack, about five and half million dollars, warrants the concentration of attention on this problem. Consequently, in the summer of 1919 the work was commenced.

The investigation was begun November 12, 1919, and was carried on energetically to the end of the season in March, 1920. The work was necessarily of the nature of a preliminary survey and involved the taking of extensive daily records of the various aspects of the daily commercial catch. Samples from about six boat loads were taken daily as the fish were unloaded at the canneries. An average weight of sardines in the respective catches was ascertained by the weight and count of the fish in these representative samples, the locality of the catch was obtained in most cases by a personal interview with each fisherman, and a number of fish were reserved from each sample for further examination. This remaining work was done at Hopkins Marine Station, where the Fish and Game Commission was courteously granted the use of quarters and facilities. This made possible the taking of accurate measurements of the sardines and a dissection for the purposes of determining sex and the development of spawn in the fish. During the season 345 samples were taken, 7534 fish were measured and sexed, and about 200 ovaries were preserved for study of the egg development.

A partial analysis of this data shows

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that we have definite clues to the answers of the vital questions, and it but remains for a more extended study to corroborate and substantiate facts which we have concerning the age, rate of growth, migration and spawning. A complete report of findings will be published by the fisheries research laboratory at an early date.

Of course large questions of yearly fluctuations in abundance and sizes, with their important bearing on depletion, can not be comprehended in the results of one season's data, but the data taken this last season are invaluable as the first of a series of consistently comparable scientific observations of each season's catch, without which nothing concerning depletion can be detected before the harm is already done. It now remains for continuance of this study to solve all of the problems concerned, and insure the perpetuity of our great resource, through the adoption of intelligent conservational measures. O. E. S.

LARGE TUNA.

A large proportion of the blue-fin tuna caught during the month of August this year was of unusually large size. A six-ton load of excessively large ones was brought in to San Pedro by the boat "Little Perina" on August 16. The fish averaged 113 pounds, the largest tuna weighing 182 pounds and measuring five and a half feet in length, and the smallest measuring over four and a half feet in length. The average weight of tuna, and the size most convenient to handle, varies around 30 or 40 pounds. The fishermen complain of much damage to their nets by the large tuna, the meshes not being strong enough to withstand the assaults of these monsters. O. E. S.

LIFE HISTORY NOTES.

BAND-TAILED PIGEON NESTS IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST.

On September 1, 1920, Guard Arnold and myself, while working on the head waters of Deer Creek, Section 35, T. 23 S., R. 31 E., M. D. M., at an elevation of approximately 6500 feet, discovered the nest of a band-tailed pigeon, *Columba fasciata fasciata.*

The nest consisted of a few small dry fir limbs and twigs about 10 feet from the ground in a dogwood tree. The nest was so rudimentary that it did not seem possible that it could be a nest at all. On it was one small squab about one-fourth the size of the parent bird. It was naked except for a few sparse reddish-brown hairs on the head and back. We saw eight adult birds near where we found the nest and they acted as if they had nests near by. W. F. DERBY.

LARGE MACKINAW CAUGHT IN DONNER LAKE.

On July 10, 1920, Mr. J. C. Purdy of Sacramento, California, caught a fifteen-and-a-half-pound mackinaw trout in Donner Lake. This large fish was caught with a trolling tackle. The mackinaw trout was first planted in Lake Tahoe in 1895 and a year later in Donner and other nearby lakes after the successful hatching of a shipment of eggs. Although fish of this species are occasionally caught in lakes of the Truckee Basin, the mackinaw, or Great Lakes trout as it is sometimes called, has never thrived to the extent expected when introduced into this part of the country.

FIG. 47. Mackinaw trout caught by J. C. Purdy, in Donner Lake, Truckee, California.

SPARROWS DESTROY GARDENS.

The damage to fruit by the house finch and the damage to fall and winter gardens of the city and suburbs and some country districts by the intermediate sparrow are responsible for most of the bad feeling which some people hereabouts have for "birds." Owing to the flocking and cover-loving habits of this sparrow the damage to gardens is confined to those near which the birds find ready cover. For example, a garden in the open or even a hundred feet from a hedge or brushy canyon is perfectly safe. Plots that suffer are little home gardens in the thinly settled parts of city and country.

The vegetables eaten are lettuce, peas, string beans, turnips, radishes, beets, the things planted here from October to April when this sparrow is one of our most abundant birds. Onions are untouched, and I believe carrots also, and potatoes very seldom if other stuff is present; besides the potato grows too fast to be greatly damaged. But where the birds have congregated they will practically clean up small gardens of growing tender vegetables. Trapping is of no avail, owing to their numbers. Screens of wire or cloth are effective but people dislike the trouble and expense. Often they give up in despair until April. Frightening birds away with clods only drives them to a friendlier place. The only solution of the problem I know is to plant after October 1 what the birds will not eat and cover up other tender things until April. CARROLL DEWILTON SCOTT.

REPORTS.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

For the Period from July 1, 1919, to June 30, 1920.

Administration:		
Commissioners	$1,672 70	
Executive offices	26,217 67	
Printing	3,824 84	
Research and publicity	5,030 44	
Accident and death benefits	2,765 19	
		$39,510 84
Commercial fish culture and conservation:		
Superintendence	$13,639 99	
Inspection and patrol	29,693 55	
Research	18,122 68	
Statistics	9,662 74	
Market fishing license commissions	765 00	
Propagation and distribution of salmon	22,703 34	
		94,587 30
Sporting fish culture and conservation:		
Superintendence	$14,510 34	
Printing	1,909 94	
Prosecutions and allowances	655 05	
Angling license commissions	15,324 20	
Special field investigation	252 35	
Fish exhibits	7,208 91	
General patrol (pro rata share)—		
San Francisco District (40 per cent)	34,545 05	
Los Angeles District (40 per cent)	14,148 00	
Sacramento District (40 per cent)	27,303 75	
Propagation and distribution of trout	121,102 29	
		236,960 89
Game conservation:		
Printing	$3,879 17	
Prosecutions and allowances	1,225 38	
Hunting license commissions	21,131 20	
Mountain lion hunting and bounties	6,950 23	
General patrol (pro rata share) -		
San Francisco District (60 per cent)	51,580 75	
Los Angeles District (60 per cent)	21,222 05	
Sacramento district (60 per cent)	40,956 68	
		146,945 46
Tahoe camping ground		8,152 98
Total expenditures		$521,157 47

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CALIFORNIA FRESH FISHERY PRODUCTS, APRIL, MAY AND JUNE, 1920.

Species of fish	Del Norte, Humboldt	Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake	Marin	Solano, Yolo	Sacramento, San Joaquin	Tehama, Colusa, Glenn	Contra Costa, Alameda	San Francisco, San Mateo	Santa Cruz	Monterey	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	Los Angeles	Orange	San Diego	Imperial	Total	Mexican
Albacore												281,103		513,018		904,121	
Anchovies			3,692					119,160	159	12,350				16,000		150,813	
Barracuda								37			912	2,258,943	27,783	601,753		2,889,458	21,604
Bocaccio		15						24,677	43,615	200,745						269,052	
Bonito												7,778	10	1,588		9,206	
Carp				7,151	22,621		7,615	2,524								39,881	
Catfish		5,019		11,953	24,110		15,905									56,997	
Chilipepper								24,784	70,875	525						96,184	
Cultus cod	699	12,383						50,757	17,055	12,777		13				93,684	
Flounders				6,401			552	263,997	13,675	530	2,141	989	4			288,289	
Grayfish							535	7,250		70		19,565		272,635		299,915	
Hake								37,025	500							37,525	
Halibut	6,951	11,790	700					12,363	579	3,539	97,272	398,993	43,006	407,290		981,592	122,689
Hardhead					1,380											1,380	
Herring			810													810	
Kingfish								6,538	40,360	77,125	259	35,936	216	447		160,881	
Mackerel									842	38,227	516	852,693	7,442	79,373		979,093	515
Mullet														55		55	
Perch	3,432		12,710				9	10,840	3,331	7,222	1,520	5,876	170	625		45,735	
Pike				630	779		292									1,701	
Pompano								1,214	1,218	679		5,681		27		8,819	
Rock bass											340	37,404	3,502	19,342		60,588	210
Rockfish	2,742	3,555						146,870	84,439	97,312	22,818	145,470	4,515	151,061		658,782	170
Sablefish								135,960	5,446	12,212						153,618	
Salmon	27,002	626,951	4,098	447,099	117,996	77,880	400,696	21,765	167,794	1,008,533						2,989,814	
Sanddabs								240,654	38,969	4,750		2,403				286,776	
Sardines			113					5,550	625	1,597,662		3,566,582		3,611,229		8,781,761	
Sculpin												12,208	63	665		12,936	
Sea bass (black)											495	5,117	200	21,975		27,787	550
Sea bass (white)								213	521	177	20,353	777,062	1,964	124,641		924,931	9,845
Sea trout								187				8,901	250	615		9,953	
Shad			100	748	72		6,968	28,795	142	104						36,929	
Shad (buck)				174,571	24,028		206,666	1,075								406,340	
Shad (roe)				287,555	39,253		539,680	1,398								867,886	
Sheepshead												63		1,088		1,151	
Skates								15,647	1,250			600	22			17,519	

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Skipjack																10,844
Smelt	17,710		7,961				3,551	29,888	18,757	10,792	17,208	21,167	6,203	509	133,746	
Sole	25							680,160	156,150	9,663	6,129	6,257	88	550	859,017	
Splittail					544										544	
Striped bass			780	97,214	27,059		104,092	67,253	40						296,438	
Stingaree			120,300	170										170,817	291,287	
Suckers					593										593	
Surf fish												10			10	
Swordfish												163			163	273
Tomcod								8,782							8,782	
Trout (steelhead)	10														10	
Tuna												17,062		4,109	21,171	10,844
Tuna (bluefin)												4,340			4,340	
Tuna (yellowfin)												310			310	487,119
Turbot			13												13	
Whitebait			10					58						60	128	
Whitefish												6			6	
Yellowtail												548,766	37	73,512	622,315	20,890
Miscellaneous				205			55	13,713	3,385	1,271	385	10,910	1,661	1,260	32,845	
Total fish	58,571	659,722	150,698	1,033,677	258,435	77,880	1,286,476	1,959,194	669,718	3,186,265	170,351	9,141,411	97,131	6,074,254	24,823,773	685,558
Crustaceans—																
Crabs (doz.)	1,032		166					11,682	259	9					13,148	
Shrimps								250,910				99			251,009	
Spiny lobsters																320,743
Mollusks—																
Abalones	180							35		165,324	59,729				225,268	1,509
Clams (cockle)	496	80	2,214								100		2,870		5,754	
Clams (mixed)	2,700		13,645					204					465		17,014	7,057
Clams (Pismo)											79,370				79,370	
Clams (soft-shell)	44	3,899	2,050				40,475	1,857							48,325	
Cuttlefish								12,146	4,343	3,297		375			20,161	
Limpets													10,500		10,500	
Mussels		510					1,871				28		13,575		15,984	
Oysters:																
Eastern (No.)			161,325					913,400							1,074,735	
Native			26,380												26,380	
Squid									145	93,281		280			93,706	
Miscellaneous—																
Terrapins (doz.)				6											6	
Turtles																88,399
Scallops													230		230	

All amounts shown in pounds unless otherwise specified.

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VIOLATIONS OF FISH AND GAME LAWS

April 1 to June 30, 1920.

Offense	Number of arrests	Fines imposed
Game.		
Hunting without license	7	$125 00
Trapping without license	3	35 00
Deer—close season—killing or possession	20	805 00
Female deer—spike bucks—fawns killing or possession	3	100 00
Illegal deer hides—possession	3	700 00
Brush and cottontail rabbits—closed season—killing or possession	5	125 00
Quail—in captivity without permit	2	100 00
Doves—closed season—killing or possession	7	175 00
Ducks—closed season—killing or possession	8	75 00
Nongame birds—killing or possession	5	35 00
Protected shore birds—killing or possession	1	25 00
Pheasant—killing or possession	1	
Possession condor wings	1	10 00
Total game violations	61	$2,310 00
Fish.		
Angling without license	27	$600 00
Fishing for profit without license	13	120 00
Striped bass—underweight—excess limit and offering for sale—closed season	6	120 00
Black bass—closed season—taking or possession	7	280 00
Sunfish—closed season—taking or possession	3	60 00
Perch—excess limit—taking or possession	1	20 00
Trout—excess limit—closed season—taking other than by hook and line	7	100 00
Clams—undersized—excess limit	7	175 00
Crabs—undersized—excess limit	13	70 00
Abalones—under or oversized—closed season	45	1,400 00
Shrimps—dried—possession	5	100 00
Fishing in restricted waters	4	50 00
Illegal fishing apparatus	10	750 00
Pollution of state waters	1	
Total fish violations	149	$3,895 00
Grand total fish and game violations	210	$6,205 00

SEIZURES—FISH AND GAME AND ILLEGALLY USED FISHING APPARATUS.

April 1 to June 30, 1920.

Game.

Deer meat	243½ pounds
Doves	8
Rabbits	1
Miscellaneous game	1
Deer hides	3
Deer heads	1

Fish.

Sturgeon	210½ pounds
Trout	27 pounds
Black bass	25½ pounds
Striped bass	189½ pounds
Barracuda	2,100 pounds
Halibut	1,300 pounds
Salmon	14 pounds
Dried shrimps	1,000 pounds
Crabs	617
Abalones	780
Clams (Pismo)	369
Clams (cockle)	606 pounds
Illegal nets (including 26 fyke nets)	34
Crawfish traps	10

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"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 5 Sacramento, April, 1919 Number 2

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1919 ABSTRACT CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME LAWS 1920

WHITE SQUARES INDICATE OPEN SEASON

NUMBERS IN SQUARES ARE OPEN DATES

	DISTRICTS	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	BAG LIMITS, ETC.
DEER	1-1½-4½ 23-24-25-26								15		24			No Does, Fawns or Spike Bucks. No sale of venison. Two Bucks per season. See Notes 1-2-8-9-10-14
	2-3									14				
	4								12	15				
RABBITS, Cottontail and Brush	ALL											15		15 per day. 30 per week. No limit in District 4
TREE SQUIRRELS	ALL													12 per season
ELK, ANTELOPE, MOUNTAIN SHEEP	ALL													Killing of Elk or possession of Elk meat a felony
SEA OTTER, BEAVER	ALL													$1,000 fine for Sea Otter
BEAR, FUR ANIMALS	ALL										16			See Notes 11-12
DUCKS, GEESE, JACK SNIPE, MUD HENS	ALL										16			See Notes 4-14-15-17
RAIL, WOOD DUCK, WILD PIGEON, SHORE BIRDS (Except Jack Snipe)	ALL													
QUAIL, Valley and Desert	1-1½ 2-3											15		15 per day. 30 per week.
	4-4½										16			
MOUNTAIN QUAIL	1-1½													10 per day. 20 per week.
	2-3											15		
	4-4½										16			
SAGE HEN	ALL Except 4								15					4 per day. 8 per week.
	4													
DOVE	ALL													15 per day. 30 per week.
GROUSE	ALL									15	14			4 per day. 8 per week.
TROUT (Except Golden), WHITE FISH	1-12a-12b													
	1½													See Note 44 50 fish or ten pounds and one
	2													See Note 43 fish or one fish weighing ten
	3													See Note 45 pounds or over.
	4-4½													See Notes 24-37-39
	Lake Almanor													See Note 26
	23-24-25					30								
GOLDEN TROUT	ALL						30				1			20 per day. None under 5 inches.
BLACK BASS	ALL													25 per day. None under 7 inches.
	Clear Lake in Lake Co.													No sale. Hook and line only.
SACRAMENTO PERCH, SUNFISH and CRAPPIE	ALL													25 per day. Hook and line only.
STRIPED BASS, SHAD	ALL													See Note 23
SALMON	ALL Except 15													See Notes 27-46
	15				16									
CATFISH	ALL					14			15					Closed season only for commercial fishing
CRABS	ALL							20				15		See Note 28
ABALONES, Red	ALL													See Note 33
Green, Pink, Black	ALL													
PISMO CLAMS	17													See Note 32

HUNTING LICENSES

License Year from July 1 to June 30

Residents, $1.00. Non-residents, $10.00. Certain Aliens, $10.00. Other Aliens, $25.00.

ANGLING LICENSES

License Year from January 1 to December 31

Residents, $1.00. Non-Residents, $3.00. Aliens, $3.00.

TRAPPING LICENSES

License Year from July 1 to June 30

Citizens, $1.00. Aliens, $2.00.

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CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME

"CONSERVATION OF WILD LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Volume 6 Sacramento, April, 1920 Number 2

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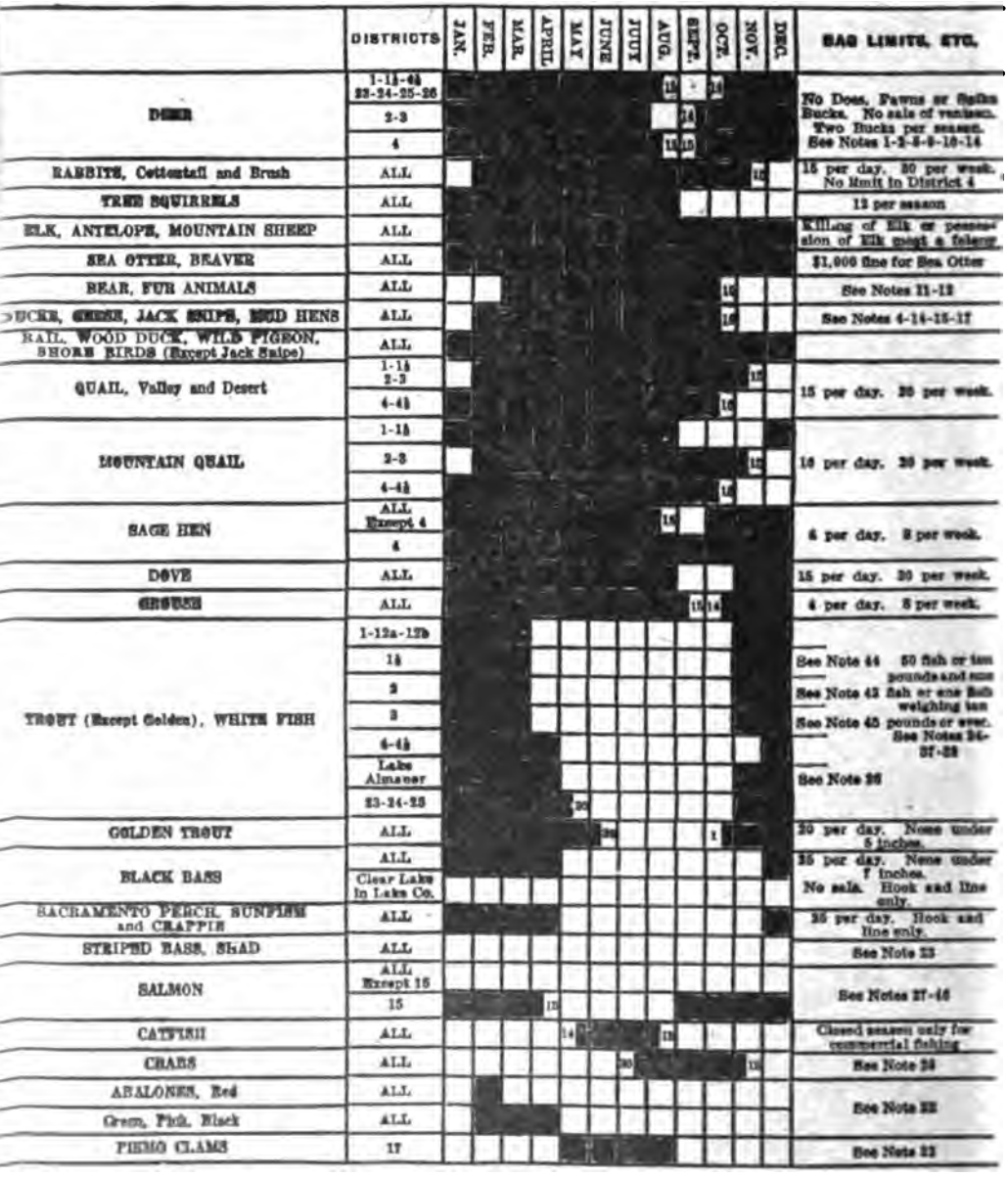
1919 ABSTRACT CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME LAWS 1920

WHITE SQUARES INDICATE OPEN SEASON

NUMBERS IN SQUARES ARE OPEN DATES



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